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MOSCOW TV REPORTS NEWS CONFERENCE ON MORATORIUM

LD200148 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1955 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Report with recorded portions on 19 December news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists held at the press center of the USSR Foreign Ministry in connection with the 18 December Soviet Government statement on the nuclear testing moratorium; by announcer Yuriy Ulyanov. Video shows, seated at a table: Ye.P. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; V.F. Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister; B.D. Pyadyshev, Foreign Ministry spokesman; and Colonel General N.F. Chervov, chief of a directorate of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces -- program broadcast in place of second "World Today" program]

[Text] [Ulyanov] Today a news conference was held in Moscow in connection with the Soviet Government's decision regarding the moratorium on nuclear tests. Comrade Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign mininster, spoke at it, saying in particular:

[Begin recording] [Petrovskiy] The issue of banning nuclear weapons tests has been brought out of the quagmire of technical jargon into the wide open political field. It has been graphically demonstrated that a practical solution to this longstanding urgent problem is fully feasible. And although the United States has provacatively and cynically carried out its nuclear tests 24 times, the moratorium remains a reality; and it will be in effect in the new year, 1987, but only until the United States carries out its first nuclear explosion. The United States is being given yet another opportunity to confirm in deeds the readiness that it has frequently declared in words to have a radical reduction in nuclear armaments. However, if the United States sacrifices this new chance as well to nuclear militarism, then there will be nothing we can do but end our moratorium. I would like to stress, however, that even if we are faced with the need to rescind our moratorium, we have no intention of rejecting the possibility of putting it into effect again as soon as the United States shows readiness to join our efforts in this matter. We are in favor of starting bilateral Soviet-U.S. talks, and a Soviet delegation could embark on such talks at any time and in any place. Finally, we are also ready, if required, for a special international conference to be held to solve the problem of a test ban.

At all these forums, the Soviet Union is proposing that problems of monitoring [kontrol] be tackled in earnest. The proposals by the Soviet Union constitute a resolute call for the moratorium to be retained and for the Nevada test sites to be forced into silence, just as the nuclear test sites in the Soviet Union are silent now.

[Unidentified Japanese correspondent] If the United States is carrying out nuclear blasts for the development of new types of weapons for SDI, then will the Soviet Union, too, develop its own SDI system in the event of the resumption of tests?

[Chervov] This situation has indeed now come about. The United States has renounced the SALT II treaty unilaterally. You know about this. Six new types of strategic offensive armaments are being developed [sozdavat]. It is precisely for this purpose that nuclear tests are being conducted, one after the other, at an accelerated pace. That is to say, not only for the Star Wars program, but also for the developing of new kinds of strategic offensive armaments. We have no such programs, and we are not conducting such tests; we are not developing space shields. The question here is that our strategic and nuclear potential has not fallen behind that of the United States qualitatively. [end recording]

[Ulyanov] And to the question: If the Soviet Union scraps the moratorium, will this not be at variance with the Soviet program for the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000? Comrade Petrosyants answered:

[Begin recording] [Petrosyants] The point is that the program for scrapping nuclear weapons put forward by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on behalf of the Soviet Union on 15 January 1986 proposes the phased scrapping of nuclear weapons. Therefore, this program remains in force entirely, without any alterations. On the contrary, the Soviet side believes that the sooner we embark on this phased elimination of nuclear weapons the better it will be for all countries in the world, for the whole earth, for our entire planet. Elimination, as you put it, of the moratorium is not really elimination. The moratorium went on in actual fact for 18 months. This is a very long time to wait for another country to understand finally that the path occupied and adopted by the Soviet Union is the right one, the only right one, the only possible path to a phased approach to the scrapping of nuclear weapons.

[Correspondent Beglov] Let us suppose that, nevertheless, the Soviet Union is obliged to resume nuclear tests. In that case, will the scientists from the U.S. Council for the Conservation of Natural Resources be allowed to remain with their seismological equipment in the region of Semipalatinsk?

[Velikhov] The agreement between the Council for the Conservation of the Environment and the USSR Academy of Sciences was signed for 1 year, in July. And when we made a request to the Soviet Government to examine it and allow us to fulfill it, then consent was given for this year. Thus, regardless of the fate of the tests, the joint experiments will continue during this year. [end recording]

[Ulyanov] Will the Soviet Union try to catch up with the United States and make up for its lagging behind?

[Begin recording] [Chervov] Of course, the situation being created from the military point of view is no simple one in Soviet-U.S. relations. But nonetheless what I must tell you is that we have no intention of competing with the United States as to the rate of which nuclear explosions are carried out. Of course, nuclear explosions, particularly after the 18 months of Soviet moratorium, are now directly linked with the maintenance of military equilibrium, and consequently with the security interests of the Soviet Union and its allies. Therefore, while rejecting competition with the U.S., I think at the same time that solving the question of how often nuclear tests are carried out in the Soviet Union and what direction they will take is wholly and completely the right of the Soviet Government.

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent (Nikonorov)] (Nikonorov) of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. Several years ago, the United States ended trilateral talks on banning nuclear tests, which were being conducted between the Soviet Union, the UK, and the United States. On that occasion, the West called the main subject of disagreement the issues of monitoring [kontrol]. I would like to hear in more detail what the position is on the question of monitoring today.

[Velikhov] First of all, I would like to say that there have recently been several forums at which the scientific aspects of monitoring tests were discussed. The results can be briefly summed up: It can be said that seismological systems existing today enable an explosion of less than 1 ton [not further specified] of chemical equivalent to be monitored from a distance in the order of hundreds of kilometers; in other words, an amount considerably less than any militarily significant weapons test.

In addition, the supplementation of these systems with satellite monitoring systems also allows monitoring to ensure that neither side can develop in secret. Special devices enable a nuclear explosion to be decoupled, so to speak, from the earth's crust so that seismic detection is not hampered. So we can definitely say today that the existing systems based primarily on seisomology enable compliance with a treaty on ending nuclear tests to be reliably monitored. [end recording]

[Ulyanov] At the moment, the Soviet Union is stating the possibility of it resuming tests. What has this new position altered regarding the Reykjavik proposals?

[Begin recording] [Petrovskiy] Strictly speaking, this conception has been expressed in the form of specific proposals as part of the Reykjavik package of agreements. This very position was, as you know, reflected also during the recent visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to Delhi, in the Delhi declaration in particular.

In the present situation, we think it is essential to view the issue of ending nuclear tests together with the attempts by the United States to develop [sozdat] new types of weapons, through nuclear tests, trying to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union. Therefore, we still think that a radical reduction in nuclear weapons is virtually impossible as long as this fundamental channel in the race has not even been sealed off -- that is, as long as nuclear tests have not ended. Our position, the new position, set out of the Soviet Government statement, confirms once more the firm foundation of the proposals contained in the Reykjavik package: the necessity to resolve the problem of nuclear arms and ban offensive space-based systems in a single complex, a component of which is the starting of talks on banning nuclear weapons tests.

[Velikhov] I would like to note that, as you see in the Soviet Government's statement, a unique situation has come about. Even if the Soviet Union is forced to halt the moratorium, nonetheless the decision of what to test and how to test will be in the hands of the Soviet Government. But the U.S. President holds the button to the tests in Soviet testing areas. And every time he presses it, he will be making the Soviet warheads directed against the United States more sophisticated. [end recording]

[Ulyanov] The participants in the press conference were asked numerous questions about various aspects of the Soviet Government statement. Then one of the Western journalists asked a question about the further fate of Academician Sakharov:

[Begin Petrovskiy recording] Well, you know, you have anticipated the information that I wanted to announce toward the end of the news conference. Given the subject of our news conference, I would like to officially inform the correspondents gathered here that Academician Sakharov has requested from the Soviet leadership permission to move to Moscow. That request was examined by the appropriate organizations, including the Academy of Sciences and administrative bodies. In particular, they took into account the fact that Academician Sakharov has been in Gorkiy for a long time, and as a result of the examination of this request it was decided to permit him to return to Moscow. At the same time, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet passed a decision to pardon citizen Bonner. Thus, both Academician Sakharov and Bonner have the opportunity to return to Moscow, and Academician Sakharov can actively join in academic life now in Moscow at the Academy of Sciences. [end recording]

[Ulyanov] At the press conference, replies were given to other questions by Soviet and foreign journalists.

DUBININ CITED ON NUCLEAR TEST MORATORIUM

LD201035 Moscow TASS in English 1019 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 20 TASS -- The Soviet Union consistently stands for a complete termination of all nuclear tests as a very important first and effective step toward achieving the main goal -- curbing the race in nuclear arms and ensuring their subsequent complete elimination.

This principled stand was confirmed at a press conference held in the embassy of the USSR in Washington Friday.

"The Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions, introduced in August of 1985, has been repeatedly extended and has now been in force for almost a year and a half," said Yuriy Dubinin, ambassador of the USSR to the U.S. "The introduction of the moratorium was not an easy step for us. There is a serious stake involved here in terms of the security of the Soviet Union and of its allies."

"In our view, the moratorium was and is one of the most effective practical measures which contribute to the stopping of a dangerous competition in the build up of nuclear arsenals, a good example to other nuclear powers inviting them to act in the same direction. We have repeatedly called upon the United States to join us in this action," he added.

"It is well known what the United States response was. Nuclear explosions continue in Nevada, while the Soviet test ranges remain silent. During the moratorium the United States conducted 24 nuclear tests. In other words, the United States continues to modernize nuclear weapons," the Soviet envoy said.

"The U.S. tried to justify its unwillingness to discontinue nuclear testing by arguing, in particular, that it is impossible to verify this measure effectively. It is a fictional pretext. The Soviet Union is ready for strictest measures of verification in this field. And this has been repeatedly stated at the highest level," Yuriy Dubinin emphasized.

"In an effort to optimally preserve an atmosphere favorable to achieving a complete ban on nuclear weapon tests the Soviet Union again proposes that full-scale negotiations be immediately started on a complete ban on nuclear tests," Yuriy Dubinin specially emphasized.

"The Soviet Union is prepared to conduct such negotiations with any parties and at any forum, naturally, with the participation of the United States. The USSR is willing to further adhere to its moratorium. However, it will have to resume nuclear testing following the first U.S. nuclear explosion next year. Should the U.S. discontinue nuclear testing, the USSR will be ready and willing any day or month to stop the carrying out of its program of such tests on a mutual basis," he said.

"I would like to emphasize that the Soviet Union intends to go on working toward an early achievement of a complete ban on all nuclear tests," the ambassador of the USSR said.

GERASIMOV COMMENTS ON LIFTING MORATORIUM

FL200230 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] At the Soviet Embassy in Havana, the USSR's position was extensively presented to Cuban press journalists who cover that area and to foreign journalists.

A press conference on the USSR's peace policy against the policy of war practiced by the U.S. Administration was granted today by Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, who also referred to the USSR's unilaterial nuclear moratorium.

[Begin Gerasimov recording in Russian with consecutive Spanish translation] It must be said that before the moratorium was declared, the United States was ahead of us in nuclear weapons testing. They conducted approximately 200 more tests than the Soviet Union. Therefore, in a short period of time they achieved a great majority, a great advantage.

Several times we have proposed this moratorium, which will continue until 1 January 1987. At this time, we ask ourselves how we should proceed. As I have said to you before, we have multilaterally analyzed this question and we have reached the conclusion that we cannot continue a unilateral approach because, first of all, we have to act in accordance with the interests of the state's national security and, furthermore, we must take our own public opinion into account. [end recording]

U.S. PROCEEDING WITH AMRAAM MISSILE PROGRAM

LD191757 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 19 TASS -- The United States is going ahead with the development of new strike weapons under the Reagan administration's programme "to rearm America." The Pentagon today announced a successful test of the AMRAAM advanced medium-range missile. The statement says that 21 test launchings of that air-to-air missile have already been carried out in the course of the full-scale development programme. Three tests have been unsuccessful.

REAGAN APPROVES MIDGETMAN, MX PROJECTS

LD201510 Moscow TASS in English 1457 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 20 TASS -- The White House has officially announced a decision made by President Reagan on Friday to start the large-scale development of new Midgetman intercontinental ballistic missiles. The deployment of missiles of this type is due to start in 1992.

Simultaneously the President gave approval to the Pentagon recommendation that a mobile basing mode be developed for the MX intercontinental ballistic missile. The U.S. Congress has already approved plans of putting 50 MX missiles in fixed underground silos. The administration concurrently intends to press with the deploymnet of another 50 such first strike missiles.

The White House statement emphasizes that these two programmes are an integrated package to modernize ground-based ICBMs (intercontinental ballistic missiles).

'STUDIO 9' PROGRAM VIEWS ARMS TALKS, DRA 13 DEC

OW130709 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0410 GMT 13 Dec 86

["Studio 9" program presented by Professor Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, political observer of Soviet television and radio; with Professor Vadim Valentinovich Zagladin, first deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, first deputy chief editor of IZVESTIYA; and Political Observer Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh -- videotaped in the auditorium of the "Krasnyy Proletariy" machine-tool plant in Moscow; plant workers asking questions identified by screen captions]

[Text] [Zorin] Hello comrades. Today's "Studio 9" program devoted to topical world political issues is being held at the Krasnyy Proletariy plant, one of the oldest Moscow enterprises with remarkable revolutionary and labor traditions. Well, for those who do not know it, I shall tell you that the plant produces the most modern machine tools, including robots, and highly qualified people work at the plant. Answers to questions of plant workers, engineers, and technicians will be given today by international affairs specialists -- Professor Vadim Valentinovich Zagladin, first deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, first deputy chief editor of IZVESTIYA; and Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh, international affairs observer.

Many serious events are now taking place in the world; important political processes are in progress. I think that "Krasnyy Proletariy" plant people have questions connected with these events and these processes, and I am sure that these questions will interest you and will interest many of our television viewers. For this reason we decided to conduct this program at your plant. Let us begin with the questions. Who wants to ask a question? Please go ahead.

[N.Yu. Ogarev, deputy shop chief] I have a question. The year 1986 is drawing to a close. This year, the Soviet Union made many important proposals for reducing the threat of war, relaxing international tension. But Washington and its allies reject all these issues as a rule. Is it possible under such conditions to consider our efforts to be effective?

[Zagladin] In fact the year 1986 is a year in which our country has made so many proposals, initiatives never seen in the past. These initiatives cover all the basic issues of stopping the arms race and disarmament, nuclear disarmament for the coming 10 years and for the period up to the year 2000, eliminating chemical weapons, and reducing conventional arms.

The second group includes proposals concerning reducing military activities in various parts of the world, for instance, reducing military activities in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The third group includes very far-reaching proposals on international cooperation in the most important fields. So the first part of the question is correct. The second part is also correct. As a rule the West does not accept our proposals, not from the very beginning at any rate. It cannot be said that they are rejected 100 percent. But on the whole they show a negative attitude, first of all to the basic proposals on disarmament and stopping the arms race.

Allow me now to ask you a question. Do you think we could expect to meet a different attitude from the very beginning? I do not think we could. We know very well that over many years our major initiatives in this field never met a positive attitude from the very beginning. Anything that could be achieved was done with great difficulty and was a result of a great struggle. That is understandable because the position of those who reject our proposals is not an occasional position, it is a position motivated by many causes. What do we place our hopes on?

We all know that when our leadership offers these proposals it understands perfectly all the motives for their rejection. Nevertheless, it submits them. Why? Let us now examine the other side of the issue. These circles, these military-industrial complexes and their allies, are very powerful but they are not all-powerful. We shall soon observe the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution. They have tried to liquidate us for 70 years. First they tried to encircle, rout, destroy us, and so forth. We all know this well. Nothing has come out of this. They also wanted to liquidate the other socialist countries, and have not managed to liquidate a single one. They wanted to rescue the colonial system; they did not succeed. It broke down and only separate enclaves have survived. We can be confident that they too will be liquidated.

In other words, the imperialists have had to admit their powerlessness in many issues. Now there is another clash, and this time it is a very serious and very responsible [as heard] one, because the stake in this clash is the survival of mankind.

If it is possible to impose on the imperialists the need to reduce the arms race, a major step will have been made in this direction. If that does not succeed, the danger of war will continue to grow. Therefore, it is understood that all forces, all potential must be mobilized to achieve progress here. Is there any success? Of course!

Let us take the year 1986, which is drawing to a close. This year, the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures in Europe, a continuation of the Helsinki process, ended in success. We managed to agree on some measures dealing with the nonuse of force, on limiting military activities, and on the exchange of information concerning maneuvers and troop movements. All that strengthens certain foundations for peace in Europe.

Progress has been achieved in discussions on chemical weapons, and tangible progress to reach an agreement is being made. The Atomic Energy Agency conference, at which two major documents were adopted on safety measures at nuclear power plants and exchange of information on these issues, successfully closed in Vienna. This also has military and defense significance.

Serious progress has been made in our relations with Asian countries. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev recently made a visit to India. The mutual understanding achieved, the Delhi declaration signed there, is also progress along this route. So there are definite results. Well, there may be something else not very concrete, you may say, but which is very substantial. There has been a change in people's attitudes. A change in people's minds has begun. That is not a fast process. You know how difficult it is to change spiritually and mentally. Yet this process is going on.

[I.I. Maltsev, planing machine operator] A long enough period has passes since the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik to evaluate its significance. I have the following question: Has there been any improvement or deterioration in the international situation, or has it remained the same?

[Yefimov] It did not remain the same. It could not remain the same, because there was Reykjavik. Reykjavik led us to a completely different set of questions which, prior to Reykjavik, were thought to be unthinkable. Now, after Reykjavik, we can think and see on a larger scale; most importantly, we can be confident -- we now have reason for this -- that these proposals, these far-reaching proposals our country has made this year, are realistic.

Reykjavik has shown that they are not easily achieved, but we knew this from the very beginning. The situation is unquestionably different, nor can it be otherwise.

Reykjavik has been, in many aspects, a great disappointment. Hopes were not justified, that is true. However, if the question is to be put: Was it worth our while to go to Reykjavik, I would unhesitatingly answer in the affirmative. Reykjavik set the question in a most decisive way. Good. Everyone said, and Reagan said that, in the final analysis, he was for disarmament and liquidation of nuclear weapons. But these are generalizations. Here, on the other hand is a concrete program. One could say that a moment of truth occurred at Reykjavik. This moment of truth revealed a great deal. It revealed a great many serious and deep-rooted problems which we must solve, but even more so, the West must solve. First of all, it exposed those who really were for the liquidation of nuclear weapons and those who were against it, and what was against it. Above all, it revealed that the main obstacle on the path is SDI -- Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative or the Star Wars program. This became the stumbling block. Due to this obstacle, all agreements which, I repeat, were almost achieved, were not realized.

Finally, something else was revealed. If you wish, the weakness of the U.S. President. Over the past 40 years, the military-industrial complex made its profits above all from the manufacture of nuclear weapons. According to American sources, they earned $750 billion from this. The sum is fantastic -- $750 billion. But this nuclear klondike is being depleted. Already, both sides can destroy each other several times over. What point is there in increasing this arsenal another several times over? Say, the sides will be able to destroy each other not 7 times over, but 12 times? The picture does not change. Obtaining funds from the American taxpayer is becoming increasingly difficult. A new klondike is needed. SDI, from the point of view of the military-industrial complex, is precisely that new klondike which can provide the profits for the next 10 years, and not merely $750 billion, but trillions of dollars. Sums of $3 and $4 trillion are being mentioned. This is several times greater.

You must understand that, in order for the U.S. President to say yes to our sincere, honest, and broad proposals, he needed to have enormous political courage, will, character, and unquestionably, freedom of action. Whereas he was found to be hamstrung. It is not by accident that Shultz an hour later said one thing, 3 days later something else, and 5 weeks later, something else again. What they say 3 months hence, time will tell. This too was revealed at Reykjavik.

However, in my opinion what is most important is that Reykjavik has demonstrated that disarmament is possible. To achieve this, what is needed is simply a new way of thinking consistent with our new times. The problems we are faced with cannot be solved by the application of old thinking, of 19th and even 18th century thinking. Certainly, in this sense, Reykjavik has opened the eyes of millions and even billions of people to many things.

The process of disarmament is not simple. By no means simple questions were discussed at Reykjavik. These questions are not easily solved. I feel that any step in the right direction is important. Even half a step. Even a quarter of a step. Whereas, in Reykjavik it was not jut a step forward that was achieved, but a significant jump. Now, after Reykjavik, we can only think in terms of going past that which was achieved there. Because, all other proposals are already being viewed as regressive. It is doubtful that this would please anyone.

[Kobysh] I think that, when speaking particularly about Reykjavik, we must not forget what it is precisely that is under discussion at the moment. There are two versions of what was discussed in Reykjavik. According to our version, the true version, the question of a total ban on nuclear weapons by the year 2000 was discussed. According to the U.S. version, banning of strategic weapons and ballistic missiles was discussed. In any case, the Americans were within a step of signing an agreement with us on banning nuclear weapons. Is this not in itself an enormous achievement, an enormous victory?

It has been said that it is difficult to deal with the present administration. Of course it is. Was it any easier to deal with the Truman administration when it was planning an atomic attack on the Soviet Union? When it was planning the Drop Shot plan and other actions? Was it easy then?

It became easier for us to deal with them when we achieved military parity. In Geneva, Reagan was forced to agree with the CPSU general secretary that a nuclear war was impossible, that there could be no victory in a nuclear war. In Reykjavik, he was forced -- forced, because America and the world demanded this and the world could no longer exist without it -- to speak about banning nuclear weapons in general.

This is a qualitatively new condition of mankind. This is precisely that change in thinking about which we started our talk. The world has changed since Reykjavik. New categories are now being discussed. We have already spoken about this, and I think that we are now entering a world which will be called the post-Reykjavik world.

[Zagladin] This post-Reykjavik world is both simpler and more complicated. It is simpler, because now we see the existing possibilities better. But it is more complicated, because now all those who were previously hidden, who previously did not openly display their position, are now doing this openly. We have already spoken here about Western Europe. The French and British position was not so clear prior to Reykjavik. Only when the cardinal solutions of the problems of missiles and nuclear arms in Europe became apparent, only then did they immediately show themselves as opponents of this decision. Prior to this, it was a different story. All supported, and everyone was in favor of the zero option. Nikolay Ivanovich spoke about this. But now, their true colors are revealed. Therefore, there are now simpler things, forces, encouraged by Reykjavik, have entered the struggle, and there are those who have taken off their mask and revealed their true face.

[A.V. Kiryanov, tool setter] Could you tell us something about the Star Wars program, what it represents, and whether it can be taken seriously?

[Zorin] I shall attempt to answer this as briefly as possible. Reagan calls this the Strategic Defense Initiative; Senator Edward Kennedy flippantly called it the Star Wars program. Essentially, the idea involves an attempt to create an umbrella over the United States, which would prevent any missiles from reaching it by using various means to intercept all missiles directed at the United States during a large-scale war. In short, this is the idea. The second part of your question is whether this is possible. A majority, I would even say, the vast majority of serious scientists, including American, maintain that, in the forthcoming decades -- not the next decade but several decades -- this program, from the scientific point of view, is unrealistic. that today there is insufficient knowledge and technology to create this kind of reliable umbrella. Besides, even those believing this is possible say that it is perhaps possible to intercept 95 to 96 percent of the missiles launched. But specialists maintain that 5 to 6 percent of the missiles penetrating this umbrella is more than enough, as the specialists say, to cause irreparable damage to the United States.

Finally, specialists, both American and our own, maintain that asymmetrical, that is other, means exist to make this SDI program worthless. Asymmetric means we do not need to create our own umbrella. It is sufficient to resort to much cheaper and absolutely effective means to increase ways to overcome this umbrella. To make it functionally useless.

Why Washington continues to insist on this program and is already entering into it, despite the fact that all serious specialists maintain that, currently, the SDI program is unrealistic from a scientific and technical point of view, has already been spoken about by my colleagues.

[Zagladin] If indeed the creation of space umbrella, at the present level of equipment and technology, is impossible, what is possible is the creation of separate components of this umbrella. Which components? Laser weapons, which have already been created and the prototypes of which have already been tested; beam weapons -- beams of directed high energy rays; kinetic energy weapons, accelerating metal objects, which can destroy certain targets, to incredible speeds; antisatellite weapons, which can destroy any orbiting satellite.

Even if the umbrella is not created, these weapons, which are already being made, and are already in existence, can be utilized, not only to defend against missiles, but for any other reason as well. These weapons are real. What is not real is the plan -- the absolute umbrella. But the weapons are real. Besides, the weapons are new and are capable of being put into space, operating with the aid of nuclear pumps, that is by means of nuclear explosions. What the consequences of the use of such weapons would be, nobody knows for sure. That is why our country, understanding this chimera, so to speak, from the point of view of its complete realization, is categorically against this new round in the arms race where, in effect, new types of weapons, hitherto unknown, are being created. We have put forward a proposal calling for a ban on the development and manufacture of any new type of weapon. I think this is the only correct approach to the question.

[Zorin] Please go ahead.

[N.D. Zhukov, fitter] What has provoked the scandal in Washington connected with the secret arms sale to Iran and, in your opinion, how will it end?

[Zorin] You have already read many reports on this scandal. I would like to draw your attention to one circumstance about which the American press, which now generally writes a lot about this and publishes much material on the subject, avoids mentioning one aspect of the affair. In order to answer this question, I think we should remember what happened in the seventies. Let us remember Watergate. Let us remember the history of the removal of President Nixon from the post of President. He was the protege of right-wing circles, the protege of Californian military-industrial corporations, the very same that now support the current President, a right-wing Republican, who at a specific stage fully suited the U.S. ruling class, including the military-industrial complex. Then Nixon, forced by circumstances, and taking into consideration the correlation of forces at that time, had to achieve some improvement in Soviet-U.S. relations, to reach major agreements and sign important agreements, which the military-industrial complex viewed as a threat to its profits. Do you remember what happened then? A scandal. A very ordinary scandal, according to Washington standards. By U.S. standards, there was nothing special in the installation of listening devices in the opposition headquarters. It was blown into a major political crisis, leading to Nixon being removed from power. He was removed from power because definite power circles, and particularly the military-industrial complex, saw in his actions a threat to themselves. What is happening now? For a period of 6 years, the Reagan administration followed a hard course, during which there were dozens of violations of various kinds, major and minor, of U.S. laws. A considerable number of people in the President's entourage were caught in illegal machinations. The administration as a whole violated existing laws. The President made statements, which were later found to be aimed at misleading U.S. society, and all that did not affect him. There was not a single major scandal. He was even given the nickname of the Teflon President.

Now President Reagan comes to Reykjavik, takes steps in line with common sense, we could say. He proceeds from some real issues and real circumstances, a realistic correlation of forces. You know that the matter concerns a bringing of positions closer in the issues of strategic arms, intermediate-range missiles, and nuclear arms testing. He takes definite steps, which frighten the military-industrial complex. Eventually Reagan dashes aside and does not take the final and last step for an agreement in Reykjavik. Moreover, on returning to the United States and finding serious discontent in the power circles -- apparently this can be supposed -- the administration started renouncing what had been achieved in Reykjavik. Reagan started making amends by coming out with strong anti-Soviet speeches, but it became clear -- at least I think so -- that it was too late. He had frightened definite circles in the military-industrial complex, which decided that he had overstepped permitted boundaries. Then an unquestionably ugly story, violating existing U.S. legislation, but a story no less loud than many during past years, is turning into a major political crisis.

I shall not assert that, in this given case, the affair will and as it did in the Watergate affair, and that President Reagan will be subjected to impeachment procedures and removed from the White House. I personally think that the U.S. ruling class will not now dare to take such an extremely damaging step. They have witnessed the damage caused by Watergate. I think the main reason for the political scandal which has now exploded in Washington -- and which, not accidentally, has been given the name Irangate through association with Watergate -- is to try to hamstring Reagan, to attempt to give him a hard lesson, so that steps like the ones the President took in Reykjavik would not recur.

[Yefimov] A very interesting hypothesis, I fear, but most probably a very successful conjecture. I would like to add another fact. Let us remember the fate of President John Kennedy. He too, especially in his last years, moved near to an understanding of the need for, and importance of, peaceful coexistence between our states. He moved to what Nixon in 1972 described in one sentence: You can go to Moscow only in peace. Remember how it ended, how dramatically John Kennedy finished up.

[Zagladin] For many years now, while the Iran-Iraq was has been in progress, the U.S. Administration has been saying: We are against war and we are not doing anything to prolong it, to support it. We are for ending it. Now it becomes clear that not only in the last few months and not just from 1985, but at least from 1981, there has been talk and supply of arms to Iran. Different figures are quoted, from tens of millions to half a billion. In any case it is not just a question of figures. Another thing is important. They said: We are for peace, we are not helping and will not help anyone, we want to end the war. But in fact they did everything for it to go on. Why? The purpose is clear. In order to support Iran, or rather to turn Iran toward some kind of pro-U.S. positions, to create there some kind of sphere of influence against us, and so forth. That is the first aspect. The second aspect is that there is a law which prohibits the President, without congressional approval, from making any kind of deal or supplying arms to third countries. The difficulties with the passage of the draft bill permitting an allocation of definite funds to the Nicaraguan contras are well known. But here it becomes clear that a draft bill is a draft bill, and that even before that and without any kind of draft bill, bypassing all laws, arms supplies were conducted via Iran, with Iranian funds going to Nicaragua and they say also to Angola, and so forth. Thirdly, the President promised Congress, regardless of the law, that he would not deal with all these issues, and particularly those connected with Iran, without the consent of Congress. But we see what happens in fact. All these behind-the-scences machinations have shown very clearly the hypocrisy of the administration, its complete disregard for legislation, its own promises, and for elementary decency in international affairs.

[Kobysh] The point is that for a number of years, U.S. official and unofficial propaganda incited people against Iran because U.S. diplomats had been held hostage and because allegedly the Iranians organized the explosion at the U.S. Embassy and an explosion at a military establishment in Lebanon where 248 U.S. military personnel died. All of a sudden it becomes clear that the administration is holding behind-the-scenes talks with the very same government, which was the worst enemy of the United States. I am very much in sympathy with the statement that this is a useful scandal. I think that Vadim Valentinovich is very correct. It has thrown light on many things. It has shown the cynicism of U.S. policy. It has shown its hypocrisy.

[Zorin] In order to close this topic I would like to say that in this situation there is one very dangerous side which lies in the fact that Reagan and his entourage could now attempt, in order to escape from the corner they now happen to be in, to undertake some kind of dangerous adventure, maybe in Latin America, particularly in Nicaragua, maybe in the Middle East, maybe against Syria. They may instigate some major provocation, take some dangerous steps to divert the attention of the U.S public from this internal political failure, scandal of the Reagan administration. It is necessary to keep in mind such a possibility.

[Kobysh] And now we have reports that the Americans are fanning a fire on the border between Nicaragua and Honduras, organizing provocations. Nicaraguan territory is being bombed. Nicaragua is now being incited in every way against Honduras. The situation is fairly serious.

[K.V. Shkarin, fitter-assembler] Could you tell us, please, what kind of reaction Reagan expected from the Soviet Union by violating the SALT II agreement, which occurred recently?

[Yefimov] I think he expected a very severe reaction. He thought that, if the United States does a bad thing -- to put it directly -- a provocative thing, then essentially the basis on which the process of disarmament has been built over the past 15 years is undermined. Apparently, he figured -- not only he, but also those circles supporting him apparently figured -- that we should respond straight from the shoulder. I am firmly convinced that our response -- and our response was that currently the Soviet Union does not intend to violate SALT II and will adhere to the restrictions stipulated by the treaty -- was a complete surprise to them.

This was obvious from the first reports, the first reactions of Western diplomats in Moscow in particular. Now, when we say currently, this means that our common sense, our patience, and our restraint cannot be taxed indefinitely. Nevertheless, we say currently, hoping that sensible forces in the United States -- and the common sense of Americans was manifested particularly at the latest congressional elections -- and sensible forces in Europe, in Western Europe, will eventually have their say. Our currently means that we want to give these forces a chance, a chance to have their say, so as not to let slip the historic opportunity existing today and to preserve this treaty, despite the fact that the United States has practically frustrated it.

[Zagladin] You know, comrades, that now our rivalry with the United States is proceeding on different levels. But, the main level lies in the fact that we are waging -- and I do not really want to say an advance line, insofar as an advance is a somewhat singular one-time activity -- a very consistent line aimed at achieving peaceful solutions. As my colleagues have correctly noted, it is better to take a step than to mark time, to take half a step or even a quarter of a step than to mark time, but we are constantly striving to move forward. We are constantly proposing new initiatives. If one is not suitable, we find another angle to this initiative, another point of view in order to keep moving forward.

Now, one of the tasks the U.S. Administration sees lies in derailing us from this path, making us flinch and blunder. You know how it can be in an argument. Someone blunders, and right away a fight ensues. No, we cannot allow this to happen. We shall continue to pursue our line, rebuffing calmly, without breakdowns, and without hysteria those hostile actions undertaken by the other side. The main thing is to calmly pursue our line without losing our cool, to strive for our aims.

[M.Ya. Kobrinskiy, technologist] I have a question on Euromissiles. This is an issue which possibly stirred all Europe in recent years, and it is now completely incomprehensible to me: How can the right-wing governments in Bonn, Paris, and London, after our Reykjavik proposals on Euromissiles which I consider sensational -- they were quite fantastic to me, I did not expect such proposals, you understand -- now suddenly completely reject these matters? This question is very disturbing to me.

[Yefimov] Indeed, it is hard for us to get used to the fact that there is so much hypocrisy, so many double standards, and a dual attitude in many Western positions and proposals. It is hard to get used to it. Now, when we took this and turned it around, you see, immediately all Western Europe, or rather the right-wing forces in Western Europe are at a loss what to do.

[Zorin] I think you are not alone in your perplexity; hundreds of thousands, and possibly millions, of Europeans are today just as perplexed as you. Therefore, the constructive position, the advancing and peaceful position of the Soviet Union besides everything else, helps the perception of truth and helps people to see the genuine features of those who have been hoodwinking them for many years, including their rulers and their reactionary politicians, and now, what is occurring, is also a moment of truth for many ordinary people in Europe.

[Ye.P. Rudenki, maintenance fitter] Would you be so kind as to outline the prospects for a withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and for an end to the war there?

[Zorin, gesturing towards Zagladin] Could I ask you?

[Zagladin] Very well. Ending the war in Afghanistan and withdrawing our troops from the country is an important aim of our policy which was discussed at the 27th party congress and which we consistently consider most important. Can we hope for a quick answer to this question? We are hoping for this. But the problem is not quite that simple. Presently, when Afghanistan is discussed in the United States and in other countries, they say that there was a Soviet invasion and that supposedly certain actions in response by the Western countries followed. Nothing of the sort.

As early as January 1979, that is, a year before the appearance of our troops, the first representatives of -- well what can I call them -- the future dushmans, if you will, appeared in Washington to receive money and weapons. They held news conferences there and spoke about this openly. In a word, the export of counterrevolution began from the very first days of the revolution. Gradually it acquired such a scale that even the U.S. press now talks about the billion-odd dollars the United States alone spent on these aims. This is where the foreign threat to the Afghan revolution came from, this is why the Afghan Government invited our troops, and why the limited contingent of our troops remains there.

Are there any chances now to overcome this situation? There are opportunities. What points to this? First of all the changes occurring in Afghanistan itself. The leadership of this country is now pursuing a fairly active course aimed at expanding the basis of the national democratic revolution, the country's revolutionary democratic base, to enlist broader circles into the country's leadership.

Besides, in accordance with the fact that this is not a socialist but a national [narodnaya] revolution, the broadest circles of the population can participate in the country's leadership and in fact are doing so, including the clergy, representatives of middle levels, and naturally workers and peasants. Everyone.

The government is pursuing a course aimed at what it calls national reconciliation. In other words it is striving to reach concord with those who have migrated and gone abroad as a result of various circumstances to restore the unity of all Afghan forces. Certain successes in this policy are at hand. That is the first point.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, during his recent visit to India, reiterated that we have no intention to remain there. We do not need this and the Afghan people do not need this. We need only one thing: an end to the export of counterrevolution to Afghanistan. Then there will be no problems in this regard.

Another thing can be noted, that the position of neighboring countries is beginning to change. Initially Pakistan readily provided its territory for U.S. training bases for dushmans, and today a large number of them remain there. But the very fact that the so-called Afghan refugees are on Pakistani territory creates an increasing number of difficulties. They behave like bandits in that country, I mean those undergoing training in the camps. They are practicing on the Pakistan population that which they later want to do in their former homeland. Naturally this is unacceptable to the local population, and real battles are being waged between the local people and these dushman gangs undergoing training in Pakistan. The Pakistan Government has to react to the situation and whether it wants to or not it must heed this, the opinion of its people.

Initially Iran also actively supported the activities of the dushmans and this support continues today. However, today there are some new elements. The Iranian deputy minister of foreign affairs quite recently, last week I think it was, declared that Iran opposes any foreign interference, and in particular it categorically opposes the interference of the United States, in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. In other words, a change in the situation is occurring in the country and around the country, and talks are being held.

New factors are gradually appearing and we must hope that this issue can be solved in the forseeable future and solved as we want it, solved politically and peacefully, then our troops will be able to return home.

[T.O. Zakradze, senior engineer] Today I heard a statement on the radio that after the Iran scandal the number of Reagan supporters had decreased to 49 percent. Now I have a question. What is the reason for the existence of this number of supporters of the administration? Why is it that although what we are proposing appears to be completely clear, as clear as crystal -- let us reduce this and that -- yet where do the means come from to convince the people that, nevertheless, America is right and the Soviet Union is not?

[Zorin] An interesting question, although I feel that it is easier to ask this question then to answer it. But we shall attempt it. First, it should be said that from the very beginning Reagan has relied it should be said that from the very beginning Reagan has relied not only on certain voters, he is not simply a protege of monopolistic groups, in particular Californian groups, although he is a product of these groups. He is also leaning on a certain mass base. Reagan came to power, first and foremost, on a nationalistic wave. He appealed at the nationalism and chauvanism of the average American, and found a respone at this level.

The Reagan administration's other trump card is the candid reliance on the middle class to the detriment of the poorest Americans. If previous administrations tried in some way to lessen the acuteness of social conflicts in the country and were forced to create a system of social security, for fear of social upheavals, such as an unemployment benefit system and provision of minimal support for the poorest, then Reagan appealed to the American middle class with the call: Enough of handouts to those who do not work, although those who are not working are unemployed not because they do not wish to work, but because they are not given work. Certain segments of American society found the idea of not having to spend funds on social programs attractive. This also is that certain stratum on which the Reagan administration relies.

One should also mention that Reagan's administration has been simply lucky. It found itself in power in Washington at a moment when the U.S. economic situation began improving. A definite uplift in the economy took place. The American, in particular the voting American, is often motivated, not by political considerations, including foreign policies, but by the state of his wallet. In addition, the state of the wallet today, and not what will happen to it tomorrow, because Reagan's administration also holds a record for acquiring debts. The Reagan administration has created a government debt which is greater than that of all the debts incurred by all former U.S. presidents put together. Apparently several future administrations, I would even say several future generations of Americans, will have to pay for the economic policies of the Reagan administration. They will have to pay because the Reagan administration, in order to finance the arms race, has raised the debt of the United States to fantastic levels, seriously undermining the future of the American economy. But this is a question for the future, while the average American does not see this today. If today, as a result of these manipulations, the government improves his economic situation in comparison with the past, then he is prepared to vote for this administration.

What is important is that now is the moment when changes have been noted. This was reflected in the results of the elections which took place at the beginning of January [as heard] and the political scandal has opened the eyes of many. Therefore, I think that it could be said that the period of uninterrupted internal policy successes and broad support, or relatively broad support, which the present administration has enjoyed, seems to be over. It is not by accident, therefore that American political observers consider that the last 2 years of the presidency will not be easy for the President.

[Yefimov] The late Olof Palme used to say that it is both the problem and the fortune of the Americans that they never really had to fight on their own territory. The Americans have got used to the fact that they are protected from the world by two huge oceans, which provide them with security. Wars, when they did occur, took place somewhere far away. This simplicity or complacency, which is to be found in the roots of history, is also being used by the present Reagan administration. Moreover, it is being used with dexterity.

[Zorin] Go ahead please!

[V.P. Fedyanin, foreman] I cannot entirely agree with the previous speaker that America has never fought on its own territory and therefore never felt anything. After Vietnam, it both received and felt a great deal.

[Kobysh] I also am not entirely in agreement with Nikolay Ivanovich when he says that the Americans still think that a world war and a nuclear war will take place elsewhere. That is all a matter of the past. They thought that way in the past. They do not think that way now. This is an absolutely new characteristic of contemporary American society.

The Americans feel that war has come closer to them, that it has become more real and they are beginning to smell gunpowder. You are right that, in this sense, Vietnam has helped Americans to see the light. Now, when the threat of nuclear weapons hangs over everyone, a majority of Americans lives in constant fear of the nuclear threat.

[Zorin] Go ahead please!

[V.P. Varaskin, state acceptance representative] Permit me to ask a question pertaining to international trade relations. It is known that trade is the best path to peace. It is also known that in our industry we make extensive use of complete sets of machinery in the production of the most intricate equipment -- imported complete sets. We are now preparing for, and soon will be introducing, state acceptance for industrial products. The question is as follows: How has this measure influenced -- or what can be expected within this context -- our trade relations with both capitalist and CEMA countries?

[Kobysh] If I understand you correctly, the question is how the problem of our acceptance will be reflected on foreign trade. I can answer you briefly. It will be reflected in such a manner that our foreign trade will have to be handled with even greater care, in more difficult circumstances because, on the one hand we are striving for improvement in our production, and on the other hand this process will obviously not be achieved immediately. And thirdly, as you know, we do have currency problems.

[Zagladin] Our production, in particular your products, comrades, the production of Krasnyy Proletariy, exists on the international market, both in socialist and nonsocialist countries. The question lies in retaining these positions and in broadening them. Here we have very serious problems, of quality -- technical quality, the technological level, including shoddy outward appearance. By various standards, our products in many cases are inferior to leading Western companies. That is why, up to now, we have not been able to broaden our position on the international market. But unquestionably, we do have such a goal, and it is very important, because, if we think big, we shall get more opportunity to purchase as well. Contemporary successful economic development is impossible without broad international exchange.

From this point of view, state acceptance will undoubtedly, in any case, be called upon to play a very positive role beause, even if it fails to solve the fundamental problems in improving technology -- this is not a problem of acceptance, this is another problem, though certainly in part it is -- but if all kinds of secondary defects which serve as obstacles are eliminated -- organizational, technical, and disciplinary obstacles, and production discipline is improved, this will immediately lead to improvement in the quality of our products, and will increase our opportunities.

[R.Z. Zolotarev, electrician] I have the following question: As you know, in Reykjavik Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev proceeded from the assumption in his proposals that French and British nuclear forces, in balancing the overall nuclear forces in Europe, would not be considered. In that case, the following question may arise: It is known that France is actively testing and perfecting nuclear weapons, and it is possible that it will be increasing them quantitatively and therefore, by the end of the century, it could become a real force in the European military theater, which could develop. In this case, would this principle remain firm?

[Yefimov] You are correct. Even now, if taken in terms of the Hiroshima bomb, Britain and France have approximately 10,000 such bombs. Obviously, we cannot ignore this.

When we proposed our package in Reykjavik, and offered to reduce Soviet and U.S. intermediate-range missiles to zero, and to retain 100 missiles in our Asian part and on U.S. territory, we were making a compromise and not taking into consideration French and British missiles. That is true. But this does not mean that in the final analysis, we would close our eyes and would not take the British and French missiles into consideration. By the way, the Americans too would not agree to this. The goal at Reykjavik was to give an impulse to the talks, which were being held, or more accurately, were dragging out in Geneva. When we introduced the package of proposals, we had in mind first of all the first half of this decade, the first 5 years. Of course, no one on our side could disregard 10,000 Hiroshimas, and obviously no one would accept this.

[A.A. Neshin, milling machine operator] It is now clear that the U.S. Administration did not support our moratorium on nuclear arms testing. In this connection a question and concern arises: How long shall we weaken our defensive capabilities with the unilateral moratorium, and generally was there any purpose in introducing that moratorium?

[Zorin] Nikolay Ivanovich, please.

[Yefimov] Yes. Well, your question is not a simple one and, insofar as the term of our moratorium is coming to an end, our government will not find it simple to solve this question. Was there or was there not any point in introducing the moratorium? I am convinced that it was worth it. It was worth doing it, if only for the reason that before we introduced it, there were very many false arguments, there was very much demagogy in the West. The moratorium has simplified understanding to the maximum, the understanding of the problem whether it is possible or necessary, and when it will be possible to ban all nuclear tests. It turned out that it is possible. The moratorium has exposed the essence of the problem, whether they like it or not. It is now extemely clear that they do not like it. Their rejection of the moratorium has very clearly, precisely, and convincingly shown everyone that they do not want it.

[Zagladin] Comrades, do you know how that change in the minds we have spoken about, that turn to new thinking began? Most probably with the moratorium. Because, previously our leadership spoke about our peaceful intentions, that we want to move forward. We were told that these were just words. You prove that. Two ideas were disseminated. First, the equal responsibility of the USSR and the United States for the confrontation and the arms race and second, the Soviet military threat. The moratorium was the first concrete act in the past year or 18 months after the April Central Committeee plenum, the first concrete act which showed that we not only talk, but we also act. We act not without risk. We are taking a definite risk in order to really move along the road to the elimination of nuclear arms and really show our desire to move forward in practice. There were other steps after that. But that was the first step. Every extension of the moratorium was met with great relief in the entire world. People wanted to believe us and they were given proof. Yes, they can be believed. The question that was asked is justified of course, that possibilities for extending the moratorium are not limitless. The United States has gained definite advantages during this period while testing its arms. But at the same time there has not been any damage that could have been too noticeable. So it has not gained that great an advantage here, although it has gained some experience, of course. We cannot permit this to continue forever.

[V.S. Naydenov, metal worker] Well, I have been sitting here hearing that America is spending large amounts of money on arms for SDI. These are astronomic figures. My question is: Have they solved all their problems, have they nothing else to deal with? Or do they still have some problems?

Do they not have something good to do in the country and not engage in playing on the nerves of all mankind?

[Zorin] I shall try to answer your question briefly. It is fairly well justified on the whole. The question does arise: Do they really have nothing else to spend their money on? After all, when you see homeless people on your television set -- this is a national problem -- please do not think that in our television reportages we hunt around for long in New York to find a homeless person, that we take a picture of some poor person and show it to you. It is not so. This is a mass problem. It is a problem of the homeless, a problem of the hungry, a problem of most substantial failures in the U.S. educational system, which are so serious that major U.S. scientists say that they will lose to competitors, to Japan and other countries, not in anything else but lose because they acutely lag behind in education, and the generation which is now completing education in U.S. colleges is badly educated and badly prepared for modern times. So you are correct, there are problems.

The matter lies elsewhere. The point is the Reagan administration is supported by circles which have linked their material welfare with the arms race. America today cannot provide both guns and butter. It has to choose, and money is short. I have said that the state debt is growing. The government, which is under the control and decisive influence of the military-industrial groups, sacrifices the people's interests, sacrifices the interests of millions of people for the sake of preserving the profits of the military-industrial complex. Here is the answer to your question. Go ahead, please.

[P.P. Marol, metal worker] What forced the Americans to reduce our embassy in the United States and what is the final result?

[Kobysh] It so happened that I was in America when that affair started. I have to tell you that all the power of that industry called propaganda in U.S. conditions then became apparent. Every day, from morning to night, it was one and the same thing: The Russians are spies; the Russians have flooded America with Russian spies. Of course, that will affect someone, every day someone listens to that and is poisoned by that poison. In a word, it was all extremely strange and unpleasant. Considering another aspect of the matter, they achieved what they strove for. We, as you know, did not just expel an adequate number of U.S. employees but we also did what the U.S. authorities forgot we could do. We deprived the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and the U.S. Consulate General in Leningrad of the service personnel consisting of Soviet citizens. For a period of time they remained without drivers, gardeners, porters, cooks, and so forth. All of that is listed in the quota. After that the State Department sent an appeal: Please let us stop this matter. We are agreeble to that; we did not start it and we are ready to stop.

[Zorin] I can only add to this that I have read the report of a U.S. journalist in Moscow who described his visit to the U.S. Embassy. The first thing he saw was the counsellor for political affairs struggling with a vacuum cleaner, trying to vacuum a rug. The cleaner kept cutting off and he kept swearing and telling the correspondent that he had been struggling with that devilish vacuum cleaner for 3 hours instead of dealing with his immediate duties.

They also write that the Americans will have to send people home. We are not expelling anyone. We simply advise our comrades not to work at the U.S. Embassy. They will have to send home approximately 40 to 50 diplomats and replace them with cleaning people, cooks, and drivers in order not to exceed the quota. They even say that some U.S. journalists had seen Ambassador Hartman changing a tire on his car because he does not have a driver now.

The U.S. press has even printed reports that the State Department is preparing an appeal to the Soviet Government to play everything back. Whether this will happen is not clear. It is a fact that the Americans have, of course, punished themselves and regret that very much. But the point is that this is the only way to talk to Americans. They do not understand any other language.

[Yefimov] It was primarily Poindexter, who has now left, and the CIA who insisted on a reduction, on having the same number of embassy workers in Washington and Moscow. The State Department seemed to be against that. But they prevailed. Let us speak plainly. When we have a reception in any embassy, that means voluntary work for all the wives. The wives cook, prepare things, and so forth. There is no question of American wives doing that. They always hired people. Now that the number of all workers has been reduced to a ratio of 50-50, as the Americans say, the question of whom to reduce arose for the ambassador. He needs a plumber, a cleaner, and so forth. He decided that since it was the CIA who insisted on this reduction, he would take out all the CIA personnel. He sent his proposals to Washington. There was even a discussion with the President, and Shultz supported his ambassador, saying he is our man there and is best suited to deal with the reduction issue. Well, that is purely an American problem, yet you see how suddenly it has turned into a different aspect.

[A.A. Kaltunchik, turner] What forecasts can be made on the situation in the world for 1987?

[Zagladin] Valentin Sergeyevich wants me to deal with forecasts now. Talking about what has taken place is simpler than about what will happen. Of course you can approach the question in the following manner -- there are some very global trends in development over a long period, let us say, 70 years after the October Revolution, or over a recent period of time after our congress. The trends are positive and it is possible to forecast that things will continue to be good in the future. But when you speak about the future it is necessary to take into consideration that it is not made up only of the main trends, but many opposing forces in action, including subjective ones, and for this reason it is necessary to consider different turns of events. Let us try to make such an excursion into tomorrow.

The main purpose of our enemies, American imperialists and other reactionary forces, when they started confrontation and intensified the arms race in the second half of the 1970's, was to weaken our country. On the one hand, the United States wanted to strengthen its positions in the world, to consolidate its dominance, including its dominance over its allies as well. But the main task was to weaken us, threaten us with war, and force us, as it said, to arm ourselves to death.

What forced them to such a decision? Many things, both the internal difficulties of imperialism, and also our problems.

Comrades, we must clearly realize and have documentary evidence that this switch to confrontation toward the end of the 1970's was linked particularly to the fact that the United States and the West noted an evident slowing down of our development, our accumulation of unsolved problems and they came to the conclusion that in these conditions it is necessary to exert pressure and press to the end [i dozhat].

Now they are looking from different positions. Despite the fact that a short period of time has elapsed and the improvement we have had is only a first step, it cannot be thought that we have passed the radical turning point. No, there is still a long way to go.

Nevertheless, the improvement is evident. Now they look and come to the conclusion that they may have been wrong, that it may not be possible to shake the Soviet Union, either with the aid of the arms race or any other means. If we wish 1987 to produce good results, then we shall have to continue our improvement, our perfection -- and that is the most important thing, comrades. Every working hour or minute won, any improved product is a contribution to that money-box.

The second point is that much has depended and still depends on our foreign political activities. Here too it must be stated plainly if at the end of the 1970's and in the first years of the 1980's our activity had declined somewhat, yet we continued to expand our activities, but apparently not at the rate required by circumstances and without full consideration of all the new events which had taken place. That spurred our enemies. They used that and tried to prove that we are in a dead end or in a state of stagnation.

Now, beginning with the April plenum and especially the moratorium that we spoke of, with the 27th congress, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's statement of 15 January 1986 -- from that moment, from the moratorium to the congress, from that moment our activity has been growing literally every month. If we wish 1986 to give us good results then that must be continued. You can have no doubt that it will be so.

Of course, a great role will be played by how our socialist community develops and the new basis of economic decisions adopted on cooperation, the development of joint production, and the creation of joint enterprises. In other words, we are moving to a higher level. Here of course a great role is played by the fact that our position on foreign political issues with the PRC is beginning to draw closer in many aspects, and in many issues we have practically identical positions. If we want 1987 to produce good results for us, this process too must be continued. This depends partly on you, because you supply equipment to fraternal countries. I have heard that they are satisfied with that equipment. The more actively we work together, particularly with Bulgarian comrades, and everyone else, the better the work will progress.

Another very important element and which has already shown itself this year and I think will continue to do so in the next is the position of the developing countries and nonaligned countries first of all. Here I would like to note the great role played by two events -- the conference of nonaligned countries in Harare this year and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to India, the role of the Delhi declaration which was adopted there. In essence these two nations representing one billion people, the largest nonaligned country on the one hand and the largest socialist one on the other, outlined a document which has become, or rather more correctly, is becoming the platform of very broad actions of these two groups of states. They represent the absolute majority of the population of the world. Socialism and nonalignment represent the absolute majority of the population of the earth. They have a common platform, which is recognized or is being recognized more and more widely. That is a good guarantee for 1987.

Speaking as a sum total, next year will be a difficult one. Why? For us this is the year in which we will not only be celebrating the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution, but will also be entering reconstruction in a deeper, tighter way. As of 1 January many of our new laws and resolutions will come into effect. This promises much for the future but it will not ease our tasks immediately and much effort must be made to truly make a dash forward.

In terms of international affairs following Reykjavik, we must go on further. To go forward is difficult, as we have said, but it is necessary. The struggle around this will keep growing. I think it will be a difficult year but will nevertheless bring us much good. I hope that both domestically and abroad we will manage to achieve serious improvements. The main thing, however, is still the home front. If on the home front things go as we plan, the way we want, then it will be so much easier for us to promote our line in the international arena.

[Kobysh] Finally, if you will allow me, I will once more return to Reykjavik, where we began, and which has become the symbol of a nuclear-free world, a world without nuclear weapons. I believe that we will attain such a world. Humanity will attain this. I wish to remind you of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's words during the talks with Mrs Brundtland, the prime minister of Norway: The Soviet Union will never retreat from Reykjavik. Reykjavik has led the situation of the arms race onto a totally new plane; and starting from this, it is possible, indeed necessary, to go only forward.

I feel that this is the crux of our discussion. But not the only one. The second crux is what we have just spoken about our work. More particularly about your work. It is you who are strengthening peace in the whole world. All hope now lies with you. You are not simply building robots here, possibly the world's and most advanced robots. You are building a peaceful life for our children and our grandchildren. You are building the future of civilization, a peaceful future for civilization. You should always remember this. We too will always remember this. Thank you very much. [applause]

[Zorin] Our air time has come to an end. Obviously we managed to answer only some of the questions which interest you. But I think this is not our last meeting, at least on air. It remains for me to thank you, comrades, to thank my colleagues for the answers to the questions, and to thank the television viewers. So until we meet again in Studio 9. Thank you.

UN FINANCE RESOLUTION COUNTERS U.S. 'BLACKMAIL'

LD210729 Moscow TASS in English 0724 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] New York December 21 TASS -- The 41st U.N. General Assembly session has adopted by consensus the resolution on the administrative-economic activities of the U.N., which is seen at the U.N. as the first step on the way towards overcoming the organisation's financial crisis. As is known, the deficit of the U.N. budget has emerged chiefly through the fault of the United States, which has recourse to open financial blackmail in order to make both the U.N. Secretariat and the developing countries constituting a majority of the international community follow into the footsteps of the imperialist militaristic policy pursued by the USA in the international arena.

The resolution has been approved due to active and interested participation in the discussion of its draft of all the groups of states represented at the U.N., GDR Permanent Representative to the U.N. Ott said on behalf of the group of the socialist countries of East Europe, as well as of Mongolia, right after the adoption of the resolution. Support for the resolution by the socialist countries is an expression of their commitment to the principles and aims of the United Nations Organisation, he said. Maintaining the status of the U.N. as a strong and an effective organisation, meets the interests of the socialist countries. The U.N. is making a substantive contribution to preventing a nuclear catastrophe, to ending the arms race on earth and preventing its spreading into outer space.

DOBRYNIN RECEIVES BANGLADESH CP LEADER

LD192029 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1801 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec (TASS) -- A meeting took place today between Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Mohammad Farhad, general secretary of the Bangladesh Communist Party Central Committee. Both sides spoke in favor of the further development and strengthening of fraternal ties between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Bangladesh, and for friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and the Bangladesh peoples. Mohammad Farhad highly appraised the consistent policy of the Soviet Union in the struggle against imperialism and the forces of reaction and for averting the threat of nuclear war and for preserving peace on earth.

KAPITSA LAUDS 'MODEL' RELATIONS WITH INDIA

LD191512 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 19 TASS -- Soviet-Indian relations are a model of relations between a socialist power and a developing country, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa said at a conference of Soviet scholars which took place here today. The conference was devoted to the results of the Soviet-Indian summit meeting and the Delhi declaration on a nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world.

The Indian leadership believes, Mikhail Kapitsa said, that the Delhi declaration is a very effective reflection of both the principles which underlie the Soviet policy of peace and principles of traditional Indian philosophy.

The Delhi declaration is a document symbolizing the union of the forces of socialism and the national liberation movement today, Georgiy Kim, a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, said. Both the shoots of new thinking and the rich experience of the people's fight for remaking today's world, experience to which the Indian people have contributed substantially, have been reflected and intertwined in the Delhi declaration.

Speakers at the conference noted that the Delhi declaration was a document of historical dimensions and significance. If succinctly presents the principles which should be the basis of relations between states with different social systems aware of the need for a new mode of political thinking to strengthen peace and the security of the peoples. The Delhi declaration is a real and tangible practical contribution to the achievement of the natural striving of all mankind for a safe, nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world. It was stressed that all the social science centres in the USSR should further their studies of Soviet-Indian relations, which have an immense influence on international relations today.

PAKISTANI CABINET RESIGNS; KARACHI RIOTS NOTED

LD201052 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] London December 20 TASS -- According to reports from Islamabad, the Pakistani Cabinet resigned today. The members of the cabinet tended their resignations to Prime Minister Mohammad Junejo. REUTER reported that this move followed recent tribal riots in Karachi, the country's biggest city. About 200 people died during the riots.

According to press reports, Afghan counter-revolutionaries based in Pakistan played a sinister role in provoking the disorders.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON LIGACHEV SRV VISIT

Holds Hanoi News Conference

PM191501 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS special correspondent report: "CPSU Delegation's News Conference"]

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Dec -- The CPSU delegation at the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress held a news conference here for Vietnamese and foreign journalists covering the work of the SRV Communists' forum.

On behalf of the delegation, Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, made a statement which says, in particular:

We are linked to the CPV and Socialist Vietnam by close bonds of combat solidarity and indissoluble friendship. The fraternal relations between our parties and countries are based on the immutable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and reinforced by the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation, the eighth anniversary of which we recently marked.

Our political ties, the pivot of which is the constantly strengthening relations between the CPSU and the CPV, are steadily widening and deepening. Top-level meetings are held regularly. In the last 2 years alone, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has met repeatedly with the top leaders of the CPV and the SRV. These meetings gave a powerful boost to the further development of the whole range of coperation between our parties and countries.

An important place in our relations belongs to trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties. They are aimed at helping the Vietnamese people to heal more rapidly the wounds of war and to make fuller use of their natural and human resources in the interests of creating a mighty economy and improving the living standard of every Vietnamese family. In the current 5-year plan, the Soviet Union's economic aid to Vietnam will be equal to the volume of aid in the whole of the preceding 30 years of our cooperation. It is oriented above all toward the creation and development of base sectors of the Vietnamese economy -- such as the power industry, coal and oil extraction, machine building, the chemical industry, and the construction materials industry.

However, it should be said that work still has to be done on increasing the efficiency of the utilization of Soviet aid. This task was set at the Sixth CPV Congress.

In the Soviet Union, a decision was adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers on measures to radically improve foreign economic activity. The crux of this decision is that while maintaining intact the principle of the state monopoly of foreign trade, we have embarked on a significant expansion of the rights of enterprises and associations to enter directly into economic relations with foreign partners. As for economic coperation with Vietnam, we will put this decision into practice taking into account the amendments made to CPV economic policy at the sixth party congress. We are prepared together with our Vietnamese comrades to move toward the all-around development of production, scientific, and technical cooperation [kooperatsiya] and the creation of joint enterprises in industry and in the agroindustrial complex.

Great significance for the restructuring of economic cooperation among Vietnam and the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries was attached to the recent working meeting of leaders of 10 fraternal parties in Moscow.

For us Soviet Communists, who have an interest in ensuring that fraternal, heroic Vietnam rapidly climbs to the heights of prosperity and progress, it is a great honor to be present at the Sixth CPV Congress -- a key forum in Vietnam's socioeconomic development. We fully share the ideas which form the foundation of the course planned by the congress of renewing all spheres of public life. A great impression was made on our delegation by the spirit of creativity and realism prevailing at the congress and by the openness and honesty in criticizing shortcomings and omissions which rang out in the introductory speech by Nguyen Van Linh at the congress opening, in the Central Committee Political Report, and in the speeches at the congress. Only a strong revolutionary party capable of leading the country through the "lesson of truth" to renewal and progress can uncover sore points so directly and keenly.

While in Vietnam we have seen the lively interest and attention with which Vietnamese Communists viewed the 27th CPSU Congress decisions and are watching affairs in our country. In short, the meaning of the revolutionary restructuring now in progress in the Soviet Union can be expressed in this formula -- more socialism! The restructuring is aimed above all toward strengthening and developing the fundamental socialist principles, eliminating everything that is incompatible with them, and creating the conditions for efficient utilization of the whole vast potential of socialism in the interests of working people and the acceleration of socioeconomic development.

As for the present international situation, the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Reykjavik revealed possible accords on nuclear disarmament, but the United States came out against them. The "Star Wars" plans which it puts forward basically mean the start of a qualitatively new spiral of the arms race and the intensification of the danger of a world catastrophe. Washington is doing everything to reverse the movement toward disarmament. This is indicated by the recent irresponsible U.S. decision finally to give up complying with the SALT II treaty and by the nuclear explosions which are continuing by the will of the White House, despite the dangerous nature of these actions and their evident unpopularity in the entire world community.

Our Asian-Pacific platform, formulated in the speech by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in Vladivostok and vividly embodied in the Delhi declaration, is also organically connected with the Soviet Union's program for ending the arms race and eliminating the nuclear threat to mankind. Its objective is a lasting and just peace in Asia and throughout the world. "We see it as in our interest," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev stressed, "to pool efforts and cooperate, with full respect for each people's right to live by their own choice and independently resolve their problems in conditions of peace.

"We are in favor of jointly building new, just relations in Asia and the Pacific."

That, the head of the CPSU delegation stressed, is the principled position of our party and the Soviet state, which we intend steadily to put into practice.

Comrades Ye.K. Ligachev and V.A. Medvedev then answered journalists' questions.

Question: At the congress you said you "firmly believe" in the possibility of the normalization of Vietnamese-Chinese relations. What is your confidence based on, and do you think conditions are ripe for the commencement of dialogue between Hanoi and Beijing in the near future? What role could the Soviet Union play to promote talks between China and Vietnam?

Answer: First of all, let me say that this question is highly topical. The Soviet Union and the PRC have recently taken certain steps to expand ties, above all in the trade and economic sphere. Moreover, our ties in science and culture and between state and public organizations are developing actively. In particular, parliamentary delegations from the Soviet Union and China have visited each other, and there has been an exchange of visits between statesmen. A major Chinese trade and industry exhibition was held in the Soviet Union; a similar Soviet exhibition has opened in Beijing. I mention this because the development of Soviet-Chinese relations to some degree promotes the normalization of relations between China and Vietnam.

I particularly wish to stress that we are developing interstate relations with China not at the expense of any other countries' interests and not at Socialist Vietnam's expense. We have never traded our principles. This is indicated by the entire history of Soviet foreign policy. It must be said that if the PRC wants to normalize relations with Vietnam, let it address itself to the SRV. We are confident that ultimately normal relations will be established between Vietnam and China. They are two socialist states. As we understand it, no radical contradictions exist between them.

But direct, equal dialogue is needed between Vietnam and China. Vietnam is a strong, sovereign state, and it is necessary to hold talks with it, and not with someone else, if the interests of the Vietnamese state are concerned.

Question: The CPSU delegation has come to take part in the work of the Sixth CPV Congress. Would you please tell us your impressions of the congress' work?

Answer: We were impressed perhaps most of all by the fact that the Vietnamese Communists are analyzing in depth everything that has been done between congresses. They evaluated the successes with utmost boldness and responsibility, and concentrated their main attention on questions which hinder further advance, on the elaboration of tasks concerning Vietnam's further development, and the development of a constructive program of socialist building in Vietnam. To judge by the work of the Sixth CPV Congress, the Vietnamese Communists and leaders have properly mastered the Leninist principle of facing up squarely to the truth. This is the slogan of the congress. The forum's work shows that the Vietnamese Communists do not avoid trying to resolve questions that are most complex, maybe not always pleasant, but exceptionally necessary and topical. Delegates criticized both central and local organizations, but the purpose of criticism was to ensure that matters improve, that socialist building in this country moves on.

Question: What is your opinion of the international significance of the Sixth CPV Congress?

Answer: We believe that the Sixth CPV Congress will be a major event in the sociopolitical life not only of this country but also of the entire international communist movement. The statements by representatives of more than 30 parties make it possible to draw a conclusion regarding unanimity in appraising the CPV congress and in showing boundless solidarity with the Vietnamese people and the CPV. This unanimity was also displayed in the appraisal of the basic problems of contemporary international life and of the importance of and need for the strengthening of peace, achieving disarmament, preventing thermonuclear catastrophe, and curbing the forces acting against the peace-loving peoples.

The CPSU delegation would like to single out two aspects in particular. First, the statements by delegations present at the congress highly appraised the Soviet Union's proposals expressed by M.S. Gorbachev on problems of universal security, disarmament, and peace. [paragraph continues]

There was approval of the stance taken by the Soviet Union at the Reykjavik meeting and of the practical measures on the implementation of this stance following the talks in Iceland. Second, we note the great harmony between the realistic, critical, and analytical presentation of problems in the CPV Central Committee Political Report and the presentation of these questions at the 27th CPSU Congress.

On the whole we believe that, as a result of the sixth congress, the CPV's international prestige will be enhanced further still.

Question: How is the large increase in Soviet aid to Vietnam to be explained?

Answer: The Soviet Union builds its foreign policy on the principle of socialist internationalism, mutual assistance, and international solidarity. This is our principle. We have never retreated from it, nor will we retreat from it whenever the issue concerns assisting peoples who are fighting for their freedom and upholding their independence. The Vietnamese people defended their freedom and independence for many decades on end, and suffered incalculable losses. Their economy was reduced to a poor state and there was great loss of human life. Under the party's leadership, Vietnam's people struggled against French occupiers and U.S. aggressors. By dealing blows against the U.S. aggressors, the Vietnamese people were performing their international duty and strengthening the cause of freedom. Bearing in mind all this, and the Vietnamese people's courage and staunchness in the struggle for their freedom and independence, the Soviet Union renders considerable assistance to the fraternal people. Rendering assistance to Vietnam in the cause of building socialism is, in fact, struggling for social progress and socialism in general.

Question: I would ask you to describe the most important measures for the restructuring of the economic management system in the USSR. Would you also comment on the international situation since the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik?

Answer: We attach paramount importance to restructuring in the sphere of economic relations. Not very much time has elapsed since the 27th party congress, but we have already made some achievements, above all to elaborate certain avenues in the economic sphere. In particular, we have managed to complete the organizational restructuring of management in related sectors of the national economy. We have already put in operation new organizational structures of management in the machine building, fuel and energy, construction industry, agroindustrial, social, and foreign economic complexes. We are substantially restructuring the management of science and are creating fundamentally new intersector science and technology complexes whose purposes is the elaboration, research, and swiftest possible introduction of the results of research in production. These complexes operate in the most important spheres of scientific and technical progress. In parallel with changes in the organizational structure of management, we are also engaged in the broad introduction of economic methods of leadership in the national economy. For example, many ministries and hundreds of enterprises and associations will switch to complete financial autonomy, self-financing, and self-capitalization as of January next year. We are now preparing major reform of wages and in the material production sphere. All this work is being done on the basis of democratic centralism, intensification of the center's role in the solution of strategic questions, and comprehensive expansion of the rights and obligations of enterprises and associations -- in other words of primary production cells -- and of their responsibility for the achievement of end results.

We evaluate the international situation as alarming and explosive. People in the USSR believe that not a single country, government, political party, public movement, or person on our earth must remain outside the struggle for peace and international security. [paragraph continues]

The mass news and propaganda media must do some active work to ensure that each and every person understands and appreciates this. Allow me to express confidence that you will be active in mobilizing the world public for the preservation of peace on the planet.

Sixth CPV Congress Ends

LD181056 Moscow TASS in English 0937 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Text] Hanoi December 18 TASS -- The Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) came to a close here today.

The congress discussed and endorsed a Political Report of the CPV Central Committee and a report on the main guidelines for the country's socio-economic development in 1986-1990, confirmed changes in the party rules, and elected the leading bodies of the party.

The closing session was addressed by Ngyuen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

The congress was attended by the CPSU delegation led by Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by the delegations of other parties.

CPSU, CPV Delegations Confer

PM191741 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Meetings in Hanoi"]

[Text] At the invitation of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] in the work of the Sixth CPV Congress, a meeting took place 19 December in Hanoi between the CPSU delegation headed by Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee. Taking part in the meeting on the Soviet side were delegation members V.A. Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, V.I. Sitnikov, first secretary of Irkutsk CPSU Obkom, and D.I. Kachin, USSR ambassador to the SRV; and, on the Vietnamese side, CPV Central Committee advisers Comrades Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, and Le Duc Tho; Politburo members Vo Chi Cong, Vo Van Kiet, Do Muoi, Nguyen co Thach, and Tran Xuan Bach; CPV Central Committee Secretary Nguyen Khanh; CPV Central Committee member Dinh Nho Liem, SRV ambassador to the USSR; and CPV Central Committee member Dau Ngoc Xuan, deputy chairman of the SRV State Planning Commission.

On behalf of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the delegation cordially congratulated Nguyen Van Linh on his election to the high office of general secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

The CPV leaders expressed profound gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee for sending a high-ranking CPSU delegation to take part in the work of the Sixth CPV Congress and for the greetings which the delegation delivered at the congress. The Soviet delegation's participation in the work of the Sixth CPV Congress reflects the firm militant solidarity between the two communist parties.

The CPSU delegation welcomed the successful completion of the Sixth CPV Congress and wished the Vietnamese Communists and all working people of the SRV the successful fulfillment of the historic tasks outlined at it.

The Vietnamese noted that the congress had analyzed creatively the situation in the country and had elaborated new approaches to the solution of the tasks facing the country. The congress marked a turning point in the party's activity, and it created favorable prerequisites for surmounting the difficulties enountered on the path of socialist building. It made a start to radical restructuring and to the renewal of thinking, and it creates both favorable prerequisites for further strengthening the party, the unity of its ranks, and the cohesion of party and people; and the conditions for accelerating the country's movement along the socialist path and for improving the working people's life. The realization of the congress decisions will permit a substantial improvement in party work on the basis of the maintenance of the traditions of cohesion and solidarity inherent in the CPV, the Marxist-Leninist party created and nurtured by Ho Chi Minh.

The CPSU delegation informed the leaders of fraternal Vietnam both of the progress in realizing the 27th CPSU Congress decisions on accelerating Soviet society's socioeconomic development on the basis of the effective utilization of the accumulated potential and the restructuring of diverse aspects of social life, and also about the foreign policy activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

The Vietnamese leaders stated their full support for the Soviet Union's domestic and foreign policy as elaborated at the 27th CPSU Congress. The Vietnamese side rates highly the Soviet initiatives aimed at averting the threat of a nuclear war and in defense of peace, and the Soviet Union's principled position at the Reykjavik talks. The SRV leadership endorsed the Soviet Government Statement of 18 December 1986 on the Soviet Union's cessation of its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests following the first U.S. nuclear explosion in the new year, in response to the actions of a U.S. Administration which is stubbornly continuing to pursue its program of nuclear tests with a view to creating [sozdaniye] and building up new nuclear armaments.

The CPV leaders made a high assessment of the Soviet initiatives on questions of ensuring peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region, and of the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free of nuclear weapons signed during M.S. Gorbachev's recent visit to India.

Both sides emphasized the profound consonance of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 6th CPV Congress and confirmed the two parties' strategic course toward further deepening fraternal relations and comprehensive cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam on the immutable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, and on the basis of the Soviet-Vietnamese Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation. Note was made of the great importance of the November working meeting in Moscow of the leaders of the CEMA states' fraternal parties, at which measures were formulated to boost the effectiveness of the socialist countries' ties in all spheres.

On behalf of the party, the government, and the entire Vietnamese people, the CPV leaders expressed sincere gratitude to the CPSU and the entire Soviet people for their great and effective assistance to Vietnam, imbued with the spirit of socialist internationalism.

The CPSU delegation restated its full support for Vietnam's domestic and foreign policy formulated by the Sixth CPV Congress. [pargraph continues]

The Soviet Union expresses solidarity with the efforts of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia to strengthen the three countries' unbreakable alliance, which gurantees socialist building and the defense of the revolutionary gains in each of these countries, and to transform Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation. It also supports the SRV's course toward the normalization of relations between the SRV and the PRC in the name of the radical interests of the two countries' peoples and peace throughout the world.

The sides voiced the assurance that the firm fraternal relations between the CPV and the CPSU and between the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples will continue to strengthen and develop steadily in the interests of the two countries and of peace in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee the delegation invited Comrade Nguyen Van Linh to visit the Soviet Union in 1987.

The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

The meeting took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and comradeliness, and complete unity and mutual understanding.

Departs Hanoi 19 Dec

LD191211 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, who led a CPSU delegation to the Sixth CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Congress held a news conference in the USSR Embasssy in Hanoi on Soviet-Vietnamese commercial, economic, and scientific and technological cooperation. Today, in Hanoi, Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev handed over orders of the October Revolution to the eminent figures of Vietnam, Pham Van Dong and Le Duc Tho, who were decorated for their active involvement in the revolutionary movement and their great contribution to the strengthening of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship.

Presenting the orders, Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev cordially congratulated them on behalf of the CPSU delegation.

The delegation, led by Comrade Ligachev, then left Hanoi for Ho Chi Minh City.

Ho Chi Minh City Arrival

LD200009 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] This afternoon, Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev and the members of our delegation, who were seen off at the municipal residence by Nguyen Van Linh, flew from Hanoi to Ho Chin Minh City. [video shows state flags, then Ligachev talking to other Russians at the airport near an Aeroflot plane; he waves goodbye from the door of the plane]

In Ho Chi Minh City, the largest city in Vietnam, it is increasingly hard to discern the former Saigon with its notorious black markets and the polyglot, multicolored billboard facade behind which the pro-U.S. regime here concealed the social misfortunes of the people. Yet only slightly more than 10 years have passed. [video shows street scenes with many bicycles, a few motorcycles, and hardly any cars]

The sixth congress of the country's Communist Party called for socialist transformations and their acceleration in the south of Vietnam, and that is the chief task today of the communists and working people in Ho Chi Minh City. [video shows line of cars, presumably carrying the Soviet delegation; then another street scene]

A comradely, warm meeting between town leaders and the Soviet delegation began with a description of how that task is being accomplished, and what achievements and difficulties there are. It took place in Ho Chi Minh's Palace of Unity. [video shows Ligachev sitting with a group of men, some of European appearance, others Vietnamese]

On behalf of our delegation, Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev presented a gift to the Ho Chi Minh City party committee -- a bust of Ho Chi Minh. [video shows the presentation]

Then our delegation attended a reception organized in the Palace of Unity on behalf of the Ho Chi Minh City party committee. [video shows exterior of a large building]

Addresses Oil Workers

LD202158 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1905 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Vung Tau, 20 Dec (TASS) -- A TASS special correspondent reports that the southern Vietnamese town of Vung Tau, situated on the eastern seacoast, is being transformed into Socialist Vietnam's oil and gas industry center. The joint Soviet-Vietnamese enterprise "Vietsovpetro," which is prospecting and utilizing oil and gas fields on the continental shelf, has been set up here. The international collective is taking an active part in competition in honor of the forum of Vietnamese Communists.

The CPSU delegation headed by Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which has been taking part in the work of the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], visited the oil workers today. The delegation viewed the mini-town of the Soviet specialists who are helping Vietnam to develop the oil and gas industry, and spent some time in one of the apartments. The leaders of the enterprise told the Soviet guests of the scale of exploration and recovery operations on offshore fields and of the successes and problems in developing them. In June this year, the first oil was obtained from the unique shelf field, "Belyy Tigr." During conversations with Vietnamese and Soviet specialists, the head of the delegation stressed the importance of strict observance of work schedules, of raising the efficiency of the work, and of applying scientific achievements in speeding the drilling of wells. He stated that the increased volume of extraction of Vietnam's industrial oil will be the international collective's weighty contribution to implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and of the Sixth CPV Congress.

A Vietnamese-Soviet friendship meeting, attended by many people, took place at the enterprise. It was addressed by Ye.K. Ligachev. On behalf of the CPSU delegation, he cordially greeted the many-thousand-strong workers of the "Vietsovpetro" joint enterprise, the leadership of the Vung Tau-Condao special region, and all the inhabitants of Vung Tau.

One's first meetings with the leaders of the enterprise, with party and economic organizers, and with rank and file workers convince one that your international collective is a united detachment of pioneers giving its labor and its creative energy to a cause of enormous importance, the emergence of the new oil and gas industry, which is of extreme importance for Vietnam.

In 1982 these places were visited by M.S. Gorbachev. At that time he noted the importance of the creation of a joint oil enterprise for Vietnam and called upon Soviet specialists to work effectively.

Here in Vung Tau the shape of Vietnam's future is being drawn up -- a powerful and flourishing socialist state which possesses modern industry, highly developed agriculture, and front-ranking science and technology.

Within a short period a major oil deposit has been discovered, two stationary sea platforms have been built, and two more are in the process of construction in this area. Preparations are being made for the construction of an oil refinery. Scientific and planning organizations have been created. Hundreds of qualified workers, engineers, and technicians have been trained -- the cadre backbone of Vietnam's future oil and gas industry.

What you have begun here in Vung Tau is an enormous thing, even by the standards of industrially developed countries. Oil production at sea is directly linked with scientific and technical progress. But that is just one side of the matter, although it is an important one. The other side is that your enterprise is an unusual one as far as its organization is concerned. For "Vietsovpetro" is the first joint Soviet-Vietnamese enterprise.

Without any analogous enterprises at all, a search has to constantly be made for new ways of solving both economic and management tasks and tasks which are purely technical.

There have been difficulties on that path. There have been mistakes and miscalculations, but the results are plain to see. The main question has been answered. It has now been proven conclusively that there is oil in Vietnam, and the first tens of thousands of metric tons have been extracted. Thus, the cause of building the material-technical base of socialism in your country is reinforced by vital fuel and chemical resources.

In a few more years, there will be in Socialist Vietnam, on the base of home-produced oil, types of production and branches of industry which are new to your country, which will serve to materialize the socioeconomic program of the CPV which it put forward at its just ended sixth congress. And that means the economic potential of the whole state will grow stronger and the prosperity of the people will increase. Every Vietnamese family and every Vietnamese worker will gradually feel the results of your selfless labor.

The first results of your work are a worthy answer to those imperialist and reactionary circles, above all in the United States, that would like to use economic sanctions and blockades of various sorts to strangle Vietnam and to prevent it from implementing the breakthrough into a socialist future. But that policy, as the experience of the Vietnamese revolution teaches once again, is doomed to fail. You cannot bring to its knees a people that has known freedom and defended in fierce and bloody struggle its right to build its life as it sees fit.

In a word, the results are noticeable, tangible, but there is no place for complacency, nor can there be. Work on a vast scale lies ahead. In addition to widespread construction and the carrying out of a large volume of geological survey work, it is necessary to sharply raise the level of oil extraction in 1987.

All this will require from your collective and from all the related Soviet and Vietnamese organizations and enterprises that are ensuring the work of "Vietsovpetro" a high degree of professionalism, smooth running in the work, creative comprehension of what has been done, and innovative approaches to the accomplishment of complex tasks. It is important not to slacken attention to social questions, to the creation of normal conditions of everyday life, and to the construction of housing facilities for social and cultural purposes.

"Vietsovpetro" is an internationalist working collective. Soviet workers, technicians, engineers make up a one-third of its workforce. The Land of the Soviets has sent experienced oilmen here. Conditions for highly productive labor have been created for them. They are surrounded by the attention and concern of their Vietnamese colleagues. We are glad that in your collective from the very first days of its activities, an atmosphere of working-class fraternity, respectfulness, mutual assistance, and mutual support was established. In such an atmosphere, it is easier to find solutions to even the most complex problems.

We call upon the Soviet workers, engineers, and technicians to develop competition in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR], and to overfulfill the 1987 planned production targets. We call upon you in the spirit of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, making use of your rich professional experience, to do everything necessary to fulfill your internationalist duty, so as to worthily represent our great motherland in socialist Vietnam -- with which we are linked by close friendship, based on the unshakable principles of Marxism-Leninism.

International cooperation between the Soviet Union and Vietnam is a convincing model of relations of a new type, built on the principles of comradeship and mutual help that are a feature of the socialist community. In their constructive work, the fraternal countries march in a single formation. Tasks are solved by joint efforts as they arise. At their working meeting in Moscow in November, the leaders of the fraternal parties agreed to elaborate a program of joint aid to Vietnam with the aim of gradually bringing its level of development into line with that of the European socialist countries.

The recent talks between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the leaders of Vietnam, and the documents of the sixth congress of the Vietnamese Communists have demonstrated with new and convincing force the unity of the positions of our parties on questions of socialist construction and on all the burning questions of our day. They have confirmed our unchanging determination to work for a further development and improvement of multifaceted Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation in the interests of our peoples and of peace and security in Southeast Asia.

We firmly support, as realistic and consonant with the 27th CPSU Congress, the line of the congress of the Vietnamese Communists toward stabilization of socioeconomic development, maximum concentration of resources on the three priority areas, bringing the industrial facilities that have been set up to rated capacity as quickly as possible and putting them into operation. It is important that concern for high labor productivity, for assiduous management and further enhancement of the effectiveness of Soviet-Vietnamese economic ties should be reinforced by the practical work of your collective which has been the initiator of many progressive forms and methods of work. Allow me to express confidence that your harmonious collective will cope with that task successfully.

The Soviet delegation, greeting the Sixth CPV Congress, confirmed again on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, that the party of V.I. Lenin and all Soviet people have been and always will be shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal Vietnamese people in their struggle for the construction of a socialist homeland.

On behalf of the CPSU delegation, Ye.K. Ligachev presented a banner of the CPSU Central Committee to the "Vietsovpetro" joint enterprise. May the image of Lenin depicted on this banner inspire you to new labor victories in the name of the triumph of socialism in Vietnam and in the name of inviolable Soviet-Vietnamese friendship, he said.

Ho Chi Minh, 20 Dec (TASS) -- According to a TASS special correspondent, the CPSU delegation today visited the (?Gevei) plantation in the province of Dong Nai, established in accordance with the Soviet-Vietnamese agreement on the development of the rubber industry within the national economy of the SRV. Ye.K. Ligachev planted a rubber-tree sapling.

Questions of the further development of cooperation in this industry and of raising its effectiveness were discussed during a conversation between the delegation and the leadership of the main rubber directorate of Vietnam.

Also today, a meeting took place between the Soviet delegation and the leaders of the Chian hydroelectric station which is being constructed in the south of Vietnam with the technical assistance of the USSR. During a comradely conversation, Tran Van Danh, chief of staff of the construction project and deputy minister of power of the republic, and other Vietnamese and Soviet specialists informed the delegation about the progress of work at this project which is of very great importance for the development of Vietnam's national economy.

On behalf of the international collective of the hydroelectric station, they stated that the station's first generating set will be put into operation by the 70th anniversary of the GOSR.

Ye.K. Ligachev wished the builders success in fulfilling this pledge.

The CPSU delegation also examined the exhibits at the memorial house and museum of Ho Chi Minh, where historical documents describing the life and activity of the founder of the CPV and the republic's first president are preserved.

The members of the delegation made an entry in the distinguished visitors' book.

Departs For Home

LD211256 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] A CPSU delegation led by Comrade Ligachev, which took part in the work of the sixth congress of Vietnamese Communists, left Ho Chi Minh City for home today.

At the airport, the delegation was seen off by Do Muoi, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, leaders of the party organization of the Ho Chi Minh People's Committee, and other officials.

Arrives Moscow 21 Dec

LD211648 Moscow TASS in English 1637 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 21 TASS -- A CPSU delegation led by Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned to Moscow today. It took part in the work of the 6th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] at the invitation of the CPV Central Committee. At the Moscow Airport the delegation was met by Lev Zaykov, member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES CSSR'S CHNOUPEK ON STOPOVER

LD202036 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1810 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 Dec (TASS) -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, met today with Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR foreign minister, who made a short stopover in Moscow on the way from Beijing and Ulaanbaatar.

During the course of the conversation, the ministers expressed satisfaction with the dynamic development of Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation in all spheres, its further improvement and deepening, in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 17th CPCZ Congress, and with the principled directives of the working group of the leaders of fraternal parties that took place on 10-11 November in Moscow. The growing significance of united action by the socialist community countries in the fight for peace and social progress during the present difficult international situation was noted.

During the discussion of international problems, attention was focused on questions connected with halting the arms race on earth and preventing its spread into space, and with establishing a comprehensive system of peace and international security.

It was indicated that the complex of peace initiatives submitted by M.S. Gorbachev on 15 January of this year remains a constructive platform for the struggle of peace-loving forces to abolish nuclear and all other weapons of mass destruction in a historically short space of time. That this is a realistic program was vividly demonstrated at the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Reykjavik, which, however, also revealed the main obstacle in the way of a nonnuclear world: The desire of the United States to gain military superiority, to break through into near-Earth space with fundamentally new types of weapons, and to stubbornly continue its nuclear test program, including those aimed at creating such weapons.

The USSR and the CSSR stress with all certainty that they are prepared to actively continue striving for the beginning of specific [predmetnyy] talks on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe, as set forth in the Budapest address of the Warsaw Pact participant states in June this year. The ministers expressed regret that NATO has to this day declined to respond to the proposal for contacts and the beginning of dialogue between Marshal V.G. Kulikov and General B. Rogers, commanders in chief of the Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, between the general secretaries of the alliances G. Krolikovskiy and P. Carrington, and between the appropriate working groups. The ministers drew attention to the fact that these serious proposals remain in force and call upon all NATO member states to respond to them in a constructive spirit.

B. Chnoupek stressed that the Czechoslovak side expresses full support for the Soviet Union's decision to halt its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests after the first nuclear blast in the United States in the coming year, for this forced measure was dictated exclusively by the security interests of the USSR and its allies due to the nuclear explosions ringing out in U.S. test areas without any respite. On the Soviet side, attention was again drawn to the fact that the Soviet Union is prepared to retain its moratorium in the future until the first nuclear blast by the United States in 1987, and is proposing that full-scale talks should be begun on the complete banning of nuclear tests.

The exchange of views showed that the proposals put forward by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary in his speeches during his recent visit to India, and the principles and ideas contained in the Delhi declaration, are at the center of attention of the governments and public of the widest range of countries, and that they are paving the way toward improving the international political climate, the settlement of conflict situations, the normalization of interstate relations, and the strengthening of the foundations of peace and security.

The conversation, which passed in a cordial and comradely atmosphere, again demonstrated the complete unity of views on all the issues discussed.

Seen Off by Ligonov

LD211426 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1046 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 21 Dec (TASS) -- Today CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek, who has been in Moscow in transit, left for his homeland. At the airport he was seen off by Vadim Liginov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; Miroslav Zavadil, CSSR ambassador to the USSR; and other officials.

LEADERSHIP SENDS MESSAGE ON DEATH OF GDR'S VERNER

PM191228 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Message from the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to the SED Central Committee and GDR State Council on the death of Paul Verner]

[Text] To the SED Central Committee and the GDR State Council:

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium express profound condolences on the death of the prominent GDR party and state figure Paul Verner.

From the early years of his life, Paul Verner was indissolubly associated with the German people's antifascist, revolutionary struggle, and later with the building of socialism in the GDR. He was known in the Soviet Union as an ardent patriot of his motherland and sincere friend of our country.

The bright memory of Comrade Paul Verner will remain forever in our hearts.

The CPSU Central Committee
The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

BRIEFS

POLISH LIGHTING AGREEMENT -- A large contract for supplying electrical lighting equipment to the USSR has been signed in Warsaw by representatives of the Soviet Raznoeksport foreign trade association and the Polish Elektrim firm. Next year customers in the Soviet Union will receive modern fluorescent lights, industrial lights and other appliances to the value of R90 million. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 20 Dec 86 LD]

REPORTAGE ON MEETING OF RYZHKOV, FINLAND'S SORSA

Ryzhkov Departs for Tallinn

LD190926 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0738 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today left Moscow for Tallinn, capital of Estonia (a Soviet Baltic republic). Together with Finnish Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa, who is arriving in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Government, he will take part in the ceremonies to put into operation the Novotallinskiy seaport. The port was built with the participation of Finnish firms. At the airport, Comrade Ryzhkov was seen off by Comrade Aliyev and other officials.

Ryzhkov, Sorsa Arrive Tallinn

LD190918 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0851 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Tallin, 19 Dec (TASS) -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Kalevi Sorsa, the prime minister of Finland, arrived in Tallinn (Soviet Estonia). [passage omitted]

'Warm, Friendly' Talks

LD191507 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1210 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In Tallinn today, talks were held between Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov and Kalevi Sorsa; these talks took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere. The prospects for the development of Soviet-Finnish relations were reviewed and certain topical international problems were discussed. Special attention was paid during the talks to the prospects for trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and Finland. [video shows two leaders seated with delegations] [passage omitted]

Sorsa on Joint Ventures

LD191958 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tallinn December 19 TASS -- The fresh achievement of Finnish-Soviet cooperation in construction, this is how Finnish Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa described the completion of the first section of the Novotallinskiy port. He addressed today a meeting in the Estonian capital devoted to this event.

The Soviet Union has long been Finland's biggest trading partner, Kalevi Sorsa said. Finland, on its part, is among the Soviet Union's biggest trading partners.

Touching upon new forms of cooperation, new prospects for economic ties, Kalevi Sorsa, specifically, pointed to mutual interest in the creation of joint enterprises.

With regard to Finnish-Soviet cooperation in third countries, Kalevi Sorsa said that it is so far the only form of cooperation supplementing traditional trade in whose framework Finnish firms and Soviet organizations received wide practical experience in cooperation in the international market. He declared in favour of using this experience, for instance, in the setting up of joint enterprises whose products will be sold not only in Finland and the Soviet Union but also in other countries.

Leaders Visit Tallinn Harbor

LD191457 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tallinn December 19 TASS -- Any ocean-going ship may freely dock now in Muuga Bay twenty kilometres from the capital of Soviet Estonia, Tallinn. Novotallinskiy sea merchant port, commissioned here, has the capacity to accommodate vessels of up to 100,000 tons displacement.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa of Finland today toured the USSR's biggest deep-water Baltic harbour built with participation of Finnish firms.

It is hard to believe that waves of deserted Muuga Bay rolled here only several years ago. Construction workers gained 200 hectares of land from the sea, about seven million cubic metres of earth were excavated from the bay bottom to build the construction site and deepen the water area.

The 200-metre ocean dry cargo-carrier Khariton Greku entered the new port. It took up one of the six berths, about eighty metres longer than the giant vessel carrying grain from Canada.

A powerful pneumatic pump was brought inside the cargo-carrier's hold and the conveyer belt within minutes started carrying grain into the grain storage. Cargo can also be loaded into railway cars, it will not take more than seven minutes to fill each. All the operations are carried out practically without dock workers. Operators alone control all the processes.

Novotallinskiy port is an example of mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and developed capitalist countries. Firms from Finland and the Federal Republic of Germany took part in the construction project.

The new port will become the USSR's third biggest cargo-handling facility after Ilichevsk port on the Black Sea and Vostochnyy port on the Pacific. Its rated throughout capacity is 5.5 million tons of cargo a year.

Leaders Address Port Ceremony

LD201003 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Correspondent (Heimer Lenk) report from Tallinn]

[Summary] A meeting was held in Tallinn today marking the commissioning of the first phase of Novotallinskiy Port. The port took 4 years to construct, and all the work proceeded strictly according to schedule. The port will be the most modern, and the deepest, on the Baltic coast of the USSR, taking vessels up to 100,000 tonnes. Many of the port installations were erected by Finnish firms.

Finnish Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa spoke at the meeting.

[Begin Sorsa recording in Finnish with superimposed Russian translation] "It gives me great pleasure to convey greetings from the Finnish Government on the occasion of the celebrations to mark the commissioning of the first phase of Novotallinskiy Port, which has been built on the basis of Finnish-Soviet cooperation. An increasingly important role is being played in relations between Finland and the Soviet Union by mutual trade and other forms of economic cooperation. Its main aims and areas are laid down in the long-term program for the development and deepening of commercial and economic, industrial and scientific-technical cooperation between Finland and the USSR up to the year 1995.

"The Soviet Union has long been Finland's biggest single trading partner. Finland, for its part, occupies one of the first places among the trading partners of the Soviet Union.

"Dear friends! Allow me to congratulate our Soviet customers once again on the commissioning of the first phase of Novotallinskiy Port, and the builders on their good work, which has made it possible to achieve a successful final result. We have every reason to consider the work that has been done as a new success for Finnish-Soviet cooperation in the sphere of construction." [applause] [end recording]

The meeting was then addressed by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

[Begin Ryzhkov recording] "Esteemed Mr Prime Minister! Esteemed Finnish guests, comrades! The birth of a new seaport is always a considerable event. That is perhaps because a port is a gateway to the world; it is a new opportunity for people, for economic life, and for international communication. Finally, it is a reminder of the glorious traditions of our heroic ports -- of the courage and steadfastness and the military deeds and labor of seamen, dockers, and shipbuilders. We are marking today's event, the commissioning of the first phase of Novotallinskiy Port, together with our Finnish partners and friends. Another major project of Soviet-Finnish cooperation comes into service. Soviet-Finnish cooperation is a vivid example of how confidently broad contacts can be developed between countries with different social systems when both sides act on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, and trust. On that basis we have always been successful in resolving the problems that have arisen in the development of cooperation.

"In economic matters, as in politics, the need today is for a new way of thinking. This is especially important in today's complex international conditions, which pose a threat to the future of civilization on earth. In the nuclear space age, the only question is whether we are to exist, or not exist. After the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik, it seemed that only one more step needed to be taken, and the world would be freed of the nuclear threat forever. Unfortunately, not everyone had sufficient political will to cover the remaining distance. The leaders of the United States and of certain other Western countries are clearly unwilling to give up the illusory idea of gaining military superiority over the USSR. Since the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests has been in force, the explosions of more than 20 nuclear devices tested on U.S. sites have been heard. In the circumstances, the Soviet Union is forced to make a decision on the fate of our unilateral moratorium. First, and most importantly, we reaffirm our proposal that negotiations should begin immediately on a total nuclear test ban. But if the United States continues its explosions in 1987, our country will resume nuclear tests. That is not a simple decision, and not an easy one for us to take. Yet we cannot do otherwise, in the interests of our own security and of the security of our allies.

"We have said more than once that we will find the necessary answer to any actions against our security. Our country acts firmly and consistently on the premise that the world has become too small for wars and the policy of acting from positions of strength. That is the gist of the new mode of political thought that was convincingly demonstrated by the 27th CPSU Congress." [applause] [end recording]

After the meeting, the distinguished guests and the officials accompanying them inspected Novotallinskiy Port.

Ryzhkov on Moratorium Terms

LD191749 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tallinn December 19 TASS -- "Soviet-Finnish cooperation is a graphic example of how confidently broad contacts can develop between countries with different social systems," Nikolay Ryzhkov, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, today said at a rally devoted to the putting into operation of the Novotallinskiy port, in the construction of which Finnish specialists took part.

The Soviet head of government noted the special importance of this cooperation "in the current complex international situation, when the future of world civilization is imperilled."

"The leaders of the U.S. and some other Western countries are obviously unwilling to give up their illusory hope of achieving military superiority over the USSR," Nikolay Ryzhkov said. "In these circumstances the Soviet Union had to take a decision on the future of its unilateral moratorium. First of all, and this is the main thing, we confirm our proposal for an immediate start to talks on a complete end to nuclear testing," the head of the Soviet Government said. But if the United States continues nuclear explosions in 1987, the USSR will resume nuclear testing, Nikolay Ryzhkov said. "This decision was hard and difficult to us. But proceeding from the interests of our own security and the security of our allies, we cannot act differently," he said.

"We are not renouncing our ideal of a nuclear weapon-free world and will continue to work to achieve it," Nikolay Ryzhkov said. He stressed that "the Soviet Union is prepared at any time to reintroduce the moratorium, which has demonstrated in practice a real opportunity to raise a barrier in the way of the nuclear arms race. The only thing needed is a U.S. statement on a halt to its nuclear explosions."

"The world has become too small for wars and a policy from strength," the speaker said. He stressed that "the Soviet programme for the abolition of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 has won broad understanding and approval all over the world. The idea of a comprehensive system of international security has put down firm roots. The Delhi declaration on principles for nuclear weapon-free and non-violent world signed recently by the leaders of the USSR and India has become another signpost for the efforts against the dogmas of policy from strength."

Touching upon Finland's proposal on the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free zone in the north of Europe, Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed that the implementation of that proposal would add considerably to the security of the countries of the region and the continent as a whole. The Soviet Union, the speaker said, "is prepared to continue to contribute by concrete deeds to establishing a nuclear-free north."

Ryzhkov, Sorsa Attend Reception

LD200017 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A solemn reception of Soviet-Finnish friendship took place today in Tallinn's Vladimir Ilich Lenin Palace of Culture and Sport. A warm reception was given to Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov and Kalevi Sorsa by the port workers and builders of Novotallinskiy port and by representatives of the public of our country and Finland, who had gathered in the hall. [video shows Ryzhkov and Sorsa sitting next to each other]

Estonian artistes gave a concert for the visitors, featuring the works of Soviet and Finnish authors.

Relations With Finland Praised

LD202124 Moscow International Service in Finnish 1530 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Nikolay Ryzhkov hosted a dinner on 19 December in honor of Kalevi Sorsa, who had come to take part in the opening of the new Tallinn grain harbor. In greeting his Finnish guests, Nikolay Ryzhkov stated that the opening of the first stage of the Tallinn grain harbor is a good reason for a meeting. It stresses the important direction in Soviet-Finnish relations, our multifaceted cooperation, which has acquired an extensive character. Long ago cooperation ceased to be merely a bilateral trade affair for our two countries. Attention is paid to economic cooperation issues by the Soviet and Finnish Governments, and our nations feel their real results. We can say that cooperation has become an integral, organic part of both countries' economic life.

Nor is this just a question of both countries' mutual economic benefit, although this principle will never cease to be one of the most important. I mean to say that dynamism, the seriousness and extensiveness of our economic relations, have made them an important factor for confidence in Soviet-Finnish relations. The importance of this cannot be exaggerated. While our border with the Finnish nation is now a border of peace and good-neighborliness, and while we are of the same opinion on many international political questions, not to mention those affecting our bilateral relations, the basis of this is confidence in each other's policies.

My talks today with Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa confirmed the good understanding by the Finnish leadership of Soviet foreign policy, just as we also understand Finland's foreign policy. And if we do not understand something, then a solution of the problem is quickly found. How important this is for international relations need not even be mentioned. It is also necessary to say that mutual confidence in Soviet-Finnish relations is not a privilege only for the leaders of both countries. The consistent and mutual observation of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance, considerate regard for both countries' interests, and the expansion of human contacts have led to the fact that confidence has now begun to determine the mutual relations of our countries. Ultimately that is the most important thing.

The strong basis of mutual confidence will also determine the future of our relations. The confidence is inseparable from the achievements, present and future, of our cooperaton, as we continually seek to renew ways of developing contacts in the cultural sphere and all other spheres that bring our countries closer.

On this basis we hold political discussion on questions of peace, detente, and disarmament. [Words indistinct] we see from the multifaceted reinforcement of confidence between Finland and the Soviet Union, and for the development of bilateral relations now and in the future, Nikolay Ryzhkov said in conclusion.

Ryzhkov Sees Off Sorsa

LD191828 Moscow TASS in English 1731 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Tallinn December 19 TASS — Finnish Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa left the Soviet Union today. He was staying in the capital of the Soviet Baltic Republic of Estonia at the invitation of the Soviet Government to attend the festivities in connection with the opening of the Novotallinskiy commercial port. The distinguished guest was seen off from the Tallinn airport by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov, other officials.

Visits Estonian Kolkhoz

LD202346 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Comrade Ryzhkov continued to familiarize himself with the life of Estonia today:

[Unidentified correspondent] The agricultural workers of the (?Etasy) kolkhoz warmly welcomed Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov. This farm is one of the best in the republic. The average milk yield per cow this year comes to more than 5,500 kilograms. But, as became clear in a conversation with the farm's specialists, this indicator could be even higher. It was precisely this that aroused Comrade Ryzhkov's interest. [video shows Ryzhkov being met by girls with flowers; officials showing him model of farm, cows in stalls and milkmaids]

[Ryzhkov speaking to unidentified female worker] And what is it, if we go into the matter, what is needed?

[Female worker] A new livestock unit is needed. This is all old.

[Ryzhkov] And can this unit be mechanized, here?

[Unidentified man] We don't have enough equipment here.

[Ryzhkov] Is it that it's the wrong equipment, or is there simply not enough?

[Female worker] There is both not enough equipment, and...

[Unidentified man, interrupting] The equipment we have is from the GDR; the milk line, the pipeline, and this equipment are already going out of use. It has to be replaced, and it has to be replaced by Soviet equipment.

[Second man] And you see, mechanization, fodder conveyance -- the unit is itself unsuitable, it's the structure. And so, it is not possible to adapt existing mechanisms in this unit. Yes, its design is not the most modern.

[Ryzhkov] When was it built?

[First man] This livestock unit was built in 1973. [video shows Ryzhkov, dressed in white coat, talking to farm workers inside livestock unit]

[Correspondent] Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov also visited the exhibition of the Estonian SSR's economic achievements today. At the exhibition, the important guest's particular interest was aroused by exhibits demonstrating the first results of the restructuring of the republic's economic mechanism. Many of Estonia's enterprises were among the first in the country to work in new conditions of management. The State Acceptance Service has already been introduced at many industrial production associations. The principle of self-financing is being used with success. The successes of Estonia's light industry are well known. Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov highly commended the achievements of the republic in the sphere of economic and cultural life. [video shows Ryzhkov being shown around the exhibition, toys and items of clothing]

Speaks With Estonian Leaders

LD201714 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who has been visiting Tallinn in connection with the ceremonial handover for use of the first stage of the Novotallinskiy seaport, today visited the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee. He had a conversation with the republic's leaders. Later the same day Comrade Ryzhkov spoke at a meeting with the republic's party and local soviet aktiv. Characterizing the main trends in the development of the country's economy during the year, he stressed the presence of positive shifts in the economy. There has been a considerable increase in industrial output and in the production and state purchases of the main types of agricultural produce. This is the result of the active labor of millions of Soviet people and great organizational work by the party in implementing the course of the 27th CPSU Congress for speeding up the socio-economic development of society.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers dwelt on the main features of the 1987 plan. There is above all the widespread introduction of new methods of socialist economic management. The replacement of physically and morally outmoded [muralno-ustarevshikh] basic production assets at industrial enterprises and their radical modernization is of tremendous importance. The speaker refered to the switch of enterprises and organizations on to two-shift and three-shift working systems as a key economic policy task directly aimed at implementing the strategy of acceleration. He dwelt on questions related to improvement of the economic mechanism, highlighting such elements as total financial autonomy and self-financing.

Much attention in the speech was paid to enhancing the quality of output and consumer goods and to questions of capital construction. A considerable strengthening of the social orientation of the plan was noted, and the need was pointed out to strictly fulfill tasks ensuring the improved well-being of working people. It was emphasized that implementation of the tasks of the 2d year of the 5-year plan will require persistent and purposeful political, organizational, and educational work from local party, soviet, and economic bodies.

Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov dwelt on the development of the international situation and the foreign policy activities of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers visited the (?Adazi) livestock kolkhoz and visited the Estonian SSR's economic achievements exhibition. He was accompanied by Comrade Vayno, first secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, Comrade Ryuytel, chairman of the Presidium of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet, and Comrade Saul, chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers.

In the afternoon Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov left for Moscow.

Arrives Moscow 20 Dec

LD201715 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1647 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 20 Dec (TASS) -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, returned to Moscow today from Tallinn. He was in the capital of the Soviet Baltic Republic of Estonia in connection with the ceremonial handing over for use of the first phase of the Novotallinskiy seaport.

At the airport Nikolay Ryzhkov was met by Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

PRESIDIUM APPOINTS NEW ENVOY TO ICELAND

LD071725 Moscow TASS in English 1711 GMT 7 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 7 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has appointed Igor Krasavin, 56, the Soviet ambassador to Iceland.

Krasavin has been in diplomatic service from 1953. In 1975-80 he was first a counsellor and then a counsellor-envoy at the Soviet Embassy in Finland. Since 1980 he has been working at the Soviet Foreign Ministry in Moscow.

Yevgeniy Kosarev was relieved of the duties of the ambassador of the USSR to Iceland in connection with his retirement on a pension.

LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES CHADIAN OFFICIAL

LD212014 Moscow TASS in English 1939 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli December 21 TASS -- Secretary of GPC [General People's Committee] for Foreign Liaison of Libyan Jamahiriyah Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur [Mansur] today received Foreign Minister of the Transient National Unity Government of Chad Facho Ballam.

In the course of the meeting, JANA reports, Facho Ballam dwelt on the development of the situation in Chad in the light of the US and France's armed interference in that country's affairs. There were raids on Chad's towns and villages the population of which supports the new Transient National Unity Government.

LIBYA DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN FIGHTING IN CHAD

LD211332 Moscow TASS in English 1317 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli December 21 TASS -- Libya has refuted the unfounded attempts of the Western mass media to ascribe to her involvement in Chad fighting.

The JANA agency has issued a statement by the GPC for Foreign Liaison resolutely refuting Libya's involvement in the events in Chad. Responsible for that campaign of lies and misinformation are the forces hostile to the Libyan people, above all the U.S. Administration which announced the other day the granting of additional military aid worth 15 million dollars to the Ndjamena regime in order to kindle the flames of the fratricidal war in Chad. Behind the fresh attempt at misleading American and world public, the statement stresses, is the Reagan administration, which is trying to divert attention from the row, in which it is embroiled.

At the same time the statement points out that Libya will not remain indifferent in face of any threats to her security and territorial integrity, from wherever that threat may stem.

GUNT Forces 'Attacked'

LD211421 Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli December 21 TASS -- Troops of the Ndjamena regime, which relies on the United States and France for military aid, have crossed the 16th parallel and attacked combat units of the Transitional National Unity Government of Chad, the Libyan news agency JANA reported today.

There is fighting between forces of Hissein Habre and the transitional government currently under way in north-western areas of Chad.

SON OF MAJLIS SPEAKER REPORTEDLY FLEES TO CANADA

LD211633 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] London December 21 TASS -- The eldest son of Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian parliament, "is believed to have fled to Canada after receiving at least six million dollars for his part in the American arms deal", the [UK] newspaper OBSERVER reported.

By supplying arms to Iran for a long time, the United States has endeavored to interfere directly in the Iran-Iraq conflict and add an extra scope to the hostilities which have already claimed hundreds of thousands of lives.

IRAN TRYING 'TO HIDE' EXTENT OF U.S. RELATIONS

NC211202 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Iran's permanent office at the United Nations sent a letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar complaining about U.S. intervention in the Iran-Iraq war. Facts set down in the letter reveal that for almost 2 years, the CIA, with the blessings of the White House, has been placing at Iraq's disposal detailed espionage information on Iran's military and economic installations, which are then bombed by the Iraqi Air Force. The fact that such information, gathered by U.S. satellites, has been given to Iraq was confirmed by the U.S. press itself. Thus, the Reagan administration has been exacerbating this war from both sides, a fact proven by the secret delivery of U.S. arms to Iran.

Meanwhile, the revelations on the arms deliveries through Israel and Pakistan indicate that they began no later than August 1985, so if certain representatives of the Iranian Government now stress that a very small quantity of U.S. arms was delivered only once, by the plane that brought McFarlane, it is because they want to hide the true extent of Iran's relations with the United States.

As for Washington's duplicity, it should be said that this seeks to protract the war and to extend the poverty and calamity faced by the Iranian and Iraqi peoples, thus benefiting American arms dealers and U.S. imperialist expansionism in the Persian Gulf.

Meanwhile, Washington is trying to use those circles in Iran that support the idea of war until victory as a fulcrum. In their effort to mislead the Iranian people, these circles are trying to equate the U.S. and USSR stands on the Iran-Iraq war. Slander can be heard in Iran in allegations that its northern neighbor is not impartial in its approach to the warring sides and that, like the United States, it does not want the war to end. But who believes these tricks in Iran? Who in Iran doesn't know that the Soviet Union called for an immediate cease-fire and a just resolution of the issues in the conflict when the Iraqi Armed Forces first attacked Iranian territory, and that it has done so again now that clashes are taking place in Iraqi territory? Such an approach to the resolution of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict derives naturally from our country's peace-loving foreign policy on international events.

Washington's approach to the existence of this dangerous threat of military conflict in the Persian Gulf is quite different. Washington is pouring oil on the flames of war by sending arms to Iran, and pursues several objectives in so doing. First, Washington is trying to attract some portion of Iran's leadership and to force Iran to walk the path of U.S. imperialist policy. Second, Washington is trying to weaken Iran and Iraq, and to remove them from the fronts of the Middle and Near Eastern peoples' struggle to overcome the impacts of Israel's aggression, and from the front of the OPEC members' struggle to implement a just economic system in the oil market. Third, Washington is trying to turn Iran into a tool for its anti-Soviet policy and into a means of crushing national liberation movements in the region.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES NICARAGUA'S RUIZ 19 DEC

LD192010 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1845 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, 19 Dec (TASS) -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the CPSU and USSR foreign minister, today received Henry Ruiz, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and minister of foreign cooperation of the Republic of Nicaragua. Ruiz is in Moscow with the holding of a session of the Soviet-Nicaraguan Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Commercial, and Scientific-Technical Cooperation.

During a conversation held in a warm atmosphere, they expressed mutual satisfaction with the development of friendly relations between the USSR and Nicaragua. On behalf of the Nicaraguan leadership, Henry Ruiz expressed deep gratitude for the help that Nicaragua is receiving from the Soviet Union in solving its urgent economic problems. Both sides underlined their desire to deepen and improve bilateral cooperation in various fields.

There was an exchange of views on the situation in Central America and around Nicaragua, which has become dangerously strained because of the aggressive "neoglobalist" course of the U.S. Administration. Eduard Shevardnadze and Henry Ruiz spoke in support of efforts to reach a fair political settlement in that region, the leading role of which should belong to Latin American countries themselves. Noting in this connection the meeting underway in Rio de Janeiro of the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the support group, the sides expressed the hope that its results would facilitate such efforts.

Eduard Shevardnadze confirmed the unchanging solidarity of Soviet people with the people of Nicaragua, who are selflessly defending their freedom and independence, and their inalienable right to determine their own path of development.

Gift to Chernobyl Victims

LD202309 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] The handing-over of a present from the Nicaraguan Government -- a consignment of coffee for the victims of the accident at Chernobyl AES -- has taken place in Leningrad today. The meeting in the Leningrad port was addressed by Ruiz, member of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and minister of foreign cooperation of Nicaragua.

In connection with the kindness showed by the Nicaraguan Government and people, Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, sent a telegram of thanks to Ortega, president of the Republic of Nicaragua.

REPORTAGE ON SOLOMENTSEV ACTIVITIES IN ALMA-ATA

Addresses Party Aktiv

PM221149 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 First Edition p 2

["Stay in Alma-Ata" -- PRAVDA HEADLINE]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 20 Dec -- Mikhail Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Party Control Committee of the CPSU Central Committee, has been here since 18 December. Yesterday he took part in and made a speech at a meeting of the town's party economic aktiv.

In the afternoon Mikhail Solomentsev and Gennadiy Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, visited the Alma-Ata heavy machine-building works and a cotton combine. They were briefed on the production work of the enterprises, and met with workers and engineering and technical employees. Warm, friendly conversations took place, in the course of which matters relating to the further development of production, improving labor conditions and the everyday services of working people were thoroughly discussed.

Further Details

LD202334 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] A republican party and economic aktiv took place in Alma-Ata today at which the question was examined of the tasks of the republic's party, local soviet and economic bodies in implementing the 24 November 1986 decision of the CPSU Central Committee on the results of the conference at the CPSU Central Committee on questions of the introduction of state acceptance of output in associations and at enterprises of industrial ministries.

Taking part in the discussion of this question were representatives of all the oblasts of the republic.

From 1 January 1987 the State Acceptance Service will be introduced in Kazakhstan at 38 major industrial enterprises with a total volume of output worth over R4 billion.

At the party and economic aktiv a strategic line of uncompromising work by the representatives of the State Acceptance Service has been outlined.

Tours Plants, Shops

LD202147 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Many industrial collectives of Kazakhstan are working ahead of work schedule.

[Reporter V. Glukhovtsev, identified from screen caption] The flagship of republican light industry is the Alma-Ata cotton combine. The collective of this enterprise produces more than 100 million meters of cloth a year. These fabrics are unfailingly in great demand.

But the times of restructuring and the speeding up of scientific-technological progress demand a new approach to resolving the production program, toward a sharp improvement in the quality of the product, and demand the resolution of a whole range of social amenity problems. [video shows cloth being checked, folded and carried away on hand-trucks and an operator overseeing cloth which is being produced on a machine; video cuts to show a group of men walking along a broad factory corridor; in the front row of this group are Solomentsev and a group of unidentified people]

Comrade Solomentsev, who is in Alma-Ata, paid a visit to the combine. He was warmly welcomed by the weavers and spinners. A conversation took place right by the machinery. [video shows Solomentsev and a group of people being applauded by a small group of workers who have formed a path for him]

Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev was also interested in what kind of conditions the workers are working, how they are looked after both at their work place and after their shift, and, of course, how they spend their leisure. Basically, it is young people who work at the combine and these questions are of no small importance. The work of the House of Culture, the sports facilities, the schools and kindergarten -- the conversation was about all of these. [video shows Solomentsev speaking; camera cuts to show a small group of women looking on; video then cuts to show exterior of a building and then shows an interior with fruit displayed on stalls]

Another meeting took place today at a kolkhoz market. Alma-Ata is a southern city, renowned for its apple orchards, an area of many fruit-and-vegetable sovkhozes and kolkhozes near the city. How do they supply the market? What produce and at what prices are the people of Alma-Ata able to buy them at their market? A discussion took place about this with buyers and sellers. [video shows abundance of fruit, mainly apples of different colors, a close up of a pomegranate and a woman handling some meat, flowers in buckets, and bottles; video then cuts to show a group of men, including Solomentsev. Video cuts again to show a close up of Solomentsev; video cuts again to show a group of men including Solomentsev at a large store, where Solomentsev's attention is drawn to a supermarket cart full of food]

Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev also visited one of the major supermarkets of Alma-Ata today. Here also there was a discussion about how trade in foodstuffs is conducted by state shops, and what problems must be resolved in order to improve the provisioning of the population of Alma-Ata, to increase the quality of food products.

In his tour around Alma-Ata, Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev was accompanied by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party, and Comrade Mendybayev, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Obkom.

Comrade Solomentsev also visited the Kazakh Kirov State University and the Kazakh Lenin Polytechnical Institute. In meetings with professorial and teaching staff and with students there was discussion of the progress of restructuring the educational, teaching, and scientific research process and about the participation of young people in public, political, labor and sports life. In a trip around the city, Comrade Solomentsev was accompanied by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, and Comrade Mendybayev, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Obkom.

Tours With Kolbin, Razumov

PM221147 PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 86 First Edition p 2

["Meeting With Working People of Alma-Ata" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 21 Dec --Comrade Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, who is in Alma-Ata, and Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, met yesterday with the working people of the city.

In the morning they visited the central kolkhoz market, where they acquainted themselves with the organization of trade and the range of products and talked to vendors, rural workers and members of horticultural cooperatives selling surplus production, and to shoppers.

Comrade Solomentsev noted the importance of skillfully combining state, cooperative and individual trade, raising the quality of production, and fully utilizing economic levers for reducing prices. A wide range of issues aimed at strengthening the ties between town and village, raising the common contribution to the practical implementation of the food program and meeting the growing demand of working people was touched upon.

Afterwards Comrades Solomentsev and Kolbin visited Universam. The collective of one of the biggest stores in the city introduced advanced forms of trading, including the sale of prepacked goods and their delivery to trading premises in containers. It fulfills and overfulfills trade-turnover plans. Noting the increased standard of services, Comrade Solomentsev emphasized that it is necessary to strive to widen the range and increasing the production and sale of livestock production and potato and vegetable growing in a more persistent and effective way.

During their visit to the Kazakh Kirov State University and the Kazakh Lenin Polytechnical Institue, Comrades Solomentsev and Kolbin met with the teaching staff and students, examined teaching blocks, and asked about the progress of restructuring of educational study and scientific research work, on the basis of the reform of higher an intermediate specialists education, the participation of young people in social and political work and sport life, the organization of culture and domestic services, and the strengthening of the material and technical base.

In conversations with professors, teachers and students, there was discussion of the need to link the training of future specialists more closely with the requirements of production and with the acceleration of scientific and technical progress. Emphasis was placed on the great significance of a specific, comprehensive approach to issues of ideological, moral and internationalist education, of strengthening links with the higher educational establishments of the fraternal republics and of an increase in the militancy [boyevitost] and the development of the initative of party, trade union and komsomol organizations in higher educational establishments.

Comrades Solomentsev and Kolbin were accompanied on their tour of the city by Comrade Razumov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, and Mendybayev, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Obkom.

Meets With Workers

LD201819 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1511 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Party Central Committee, has been visiting the capital of Kazakhstan since 18 December. On 19 December he spoke at a meeting of the city's party and economic aktiv. Later that day Comrade Solomentsev visited the heavy machine-building works in Alma-Ata. He saw equipment in the plant's assembly shop and showed interest in the production of steel rolling mills, matters of quality, and the possibilities of a transition to two-shift and three-shift working. The plant's machines are well known and sought after not only in our country but also abroad.

The first machine-building works in the republic will go over to the state acceptance of products system from January next year.

Comrade Solomentsev familiarized himself with the progress in preparation for this important transition and stressed the importance of future joint work of the collective and the representatives of the state acceptance bodies for further improving the quality of production and equipment. Much can be done to modernize production, to speed up scientific and technological progress, to increase productivity, and to introduce material-saving practices and technology.

While familiarizing himself with the mass political and educational work carried out in light of the decisions of the April 1985 plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 27th party congress, Comrade Solomentsev stressed the importance of enhancing the political and public activity of members of the Politburo, the wider participation of workers in decisions connected with production, and of quicker implementation of the policy of restructuring.

The same day Comrade Solomentsev met with the collective of the Alma-Ata textile combine. He had a long conversation about the problems of speeding up technological renovation, improving working and domestic conditions of the workers, and a sharp improvement in the quality of production.

Kochetova, a textile worker and Hero of Socialist Labor who works on 26 machines while the norm is only 12, spoke about the methods of her work and her personal contribution to the intensification of production. She is already working on the targets of the third year of the 5-Year Plan.

The conversation included topics such as the role of the elders [rol nastavnichestva] in educating young people in the spirit of internationalism and friendship of peoples, and attention was drawn to the need to strengthen discipline and order at [words indistinct] and to create an intolerable situation around those who violate it.

Comrade Solomentsev was accompanied on his visit to the enterprises by Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee; Razumov, first deputy of the Organizational Party Work Department; and Mendybayev, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Obkom.

Kazakh Council Meeting

LD211732 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1509 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] The issue of measures for the successful completion of the program for the social and economic development of the republic during the first year of the 5-year plan period and for the completion of preparations for the commencement of work next year was examined at an extended sessin of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers today. taking part in its work were Comrade Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Party Control Committee, and Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee.

In the information presented by Comrade Nazarbayev, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers, and in the speeches, particular attention was paid to the removal of existing shortcomings in the republic's social and economic development. Many enterprises are not operating smoothly, are producing poor quality output, are failing to cope with the plan for the marketing of it and are violating obligations in contractual agreements. There is also an unsatisfactory state of affairs in the agroindustrial complex. The yield of agricultural crops and output of livestock farming produce is growing slowly. This year there has been a substantial shortfall in the production of potatoes, sugar beet and raw cotton. There are cases of cattle plague, and cattle productivity [as heard] is low. Harvest losses during transportation and storage processes are substantial.

There are serious shortcomings in building and in the provision of retail trade, everyday and medical services for the population. Housing construction plans are not being fulfilled. Having exposed these and other shortcomings, those taking part in the session concentrated their attention on ways of eliminating them, of raising the effectiveness of production and the quality of the output being produced, and of introducing on a broad scale the achievements of science and technology. Particular attention was paid to more fully satisfying the population's demand for consumer goods and for improving retail trade and everyday services. Cases of placidity, irresponsibility and negative manifestations of different kinds were subjected to sharp criticism.

Comrades Solomentsev and Kolbin spoke at the session.

Taking part in the session were Comrade Razumov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department; Comrade Miroshkin, second secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee; and Comrades Bashmakov, Davletova and Rybnikov, secretaries of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee.

REPORTAGE ON UKRAINIAN COMMUNIST PARTY MEETINGS

Cadres Disciplined

AU220838 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "A Conference in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] On 8 December the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee held a conference with obkom first secretaries, oblispolkom chairmen, Presidium members of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers, and chiefs of Central Committee departments.

The conference examined practical steps to organize the implementation of the CPSU Central Committee decision on the work performed by the Ukrainian SSR party, administrative, and economic organs to increase the production and purchases of grain in light of the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress, as well as of the decisions of the most recent plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. It also discussed some questions concerning the republic's socioeconomic development; the work of the national economy under the winter conditions; improvements in planning; the process of restructuring; perfecting the style of work in party committees; increasing the responsibility of cadres for settling problems connected with the satisfaction of the working people's needs and demands.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, delivered a speech at the conference.

It was noted that the national economic results of the current year, on the whole satisfactory, had provided grounds for successful work in the future. However, the accomplishment of a number of tasks call for particular attention. In particular, great efforts are needed to implement the intense 1987 program for capital construction. For this reason it is highly important to staff the appropriate construction organizations, to strengthen and to expand the production base, and to prepare houses to accommodate workers. And what matters most is to firmly follow the line aimed at concentrating forces and resources on the basic sectors -- on the reconstruction and technical equipment of the existing enterprises, and on commissioning on schedule production capacities of importance, houses, general-education and vocational-technical schools, children's and medical establishments, and cultural facilities. In doing this, it is essential to more vigorously promote economic methods of construction.

Attention was called to the need to prepare well for introducing the state acceptance of products, for switching a number of enterprises and associations over to full economic accountancy and self-financing, and for applying new wage rates and salaries on the post in labor collectives of the production sphere. It is essential explain well to people the essence of the impending work, and to provide ideological grounds for accomplishing these tasks.

Settling problems in the most direct way involving the vital interests of people is to be kept under the unremitting control of the party. The conference discussed the need to improve the coverage in kind for retail commodity turnover, and to raise the efficiency of services for the population.

Problems concerning labor protection and safety technique were also posed sharply. It was noted that a number of accidents and transport incidents, which occurred recently, were mainly caused by workers carelessly discharging their duties. Leaders at all levels are obligated to take steps to enhance good organization and discipline, and to tighten control over the observance of safety technique norms and regulations.

The conference paid much attention to improvements in the style of work in party committees and administrative organs. The quoted facts showed that many of them, particularly at the rayon level, did not eliminate the deep-rooted shortcomings, and were insufficiently persistent in adopting new attitudes in their work. For example, Apostolovskiy Raykom in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast cannot find the way to give up the practice of holding excessively many sessions and conferences, and of sending various circular letters. Volyn Obkom does not always take a political, collective attitude toward cadre work, and keeps criticism and self-criticism down. It was emphasized that the basic party organization and the labor collective should be put in the center of restructuring.

The accomplishment of the outstanding tasks, it was noted at the conference, will depend on consistency and firmness in the pursuit of the line aimed at increasing the responsibility of cadres. Particularly intolerable are the cases of book doctoring, eyewash, and other infringements disclosed in Kirovograd, Kiev, Lvov, Odessa, Ternopol, and Kharkov Oblasts. Persons guilty of book doctoring and of deceiving the state have to be dismissed from the posts they hold and to be expelled from the party.

Individual leading workers do not always adhere to principles in assessing the abuses of the official status. For example, in Voroshilovgrad Oblast a number of discredited persons have been offered other leading jobs. The attempts to persecute someone for their criticism, the manifestations of bureaucratism and red tape are still in evidence. Those guilty of them are to be brought to task with all severity.

The attention of the conference participants was also called to the need to further perfect law and order, to observe socialist legality, and to intensify the struggle against the infringements of the principles of social justice, as well as against unearned incomes. The conference examines concrete problems concerning the implementation of the law on private labor activity.

The need was noted to more purposefully set about the education of youths, and to unite the efforts of Soviets, administrative organs, and public organizations in the struggle against phenomena as adverse as drunkness, drug addiction, and criminality. It is essential to take appropriate measures and to see to it that all graduates from general education, vocational, and technical schools are quickly placed in jobs.

In connection with the accountability and election campaign completed in party organizations, party committees have been requested to scrutinize the results of the campaign, to draw due conclusions from it, and to assist in holding accountability and election conferences in trade union and Komsomol organizations.

It was emphasized that, in implementing the decisions of the 27th party congress and CPSU Central Committee plenums, an important role had to be played by party committee first secretaries who are called upon to ensure that bureaus perform harmoniously at every level, that problems are examined in a friendly and benevolent atmosphere, collectively, and that each one bears personal responsibility for the commissioned sector.

The speakers at the conference were: A.P. Lyashko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers chairman; I.A. Mozgovoy, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary; Ye.V. Kachalovskiy, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers first deputy chairman; V.A. Masol, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member, Council of Ministers deputy chairman, and Gosplan chairman; Ya.P. Pogrebnyak, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member and secretary; Yu.A. Kolomiyets, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member, Council of Ministers first deputy chairman, and State Agroindustrial Committee chairman; and V.G. Dikusarov, Khemlnitskiy Obkom first secretary.

The conference was attended by I.A. Gerasimov, B.V. Kachura, V.P. Mironov, V.A. Sologub, A.A. Titarenko, V.S. Shevchenko. V.F. Dobrik, V.A. Ivashko, and V.D. Kryuchkov, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo members and candidate members.

CPSU CC Criticism Accepted

AU191600 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Dec 86 pp 1-2

["Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum Decision on the Tasks of the Republic's Party Organization in Implementing the CPSU Central Committee Decision on the Work Performed by the Ukrainian SSR Party, Administrative, and Economic Organs To Increase the Production and Purchases of Grain in Light of the Requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress" -- PRAVDA UKRAINY headline]

[Excerpts] Having discussed the tasks of the republic's party organization in implementing the CPSU Central Committee decision on the work performed by the Ukrainian SSR party, administrative, and economic organs to increase the production and purchases of grain in light of the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum found that the analysis, conclusions, and the assessment of the situation in the republic's grain farming, contained in the decision, were perfectly right. The CPSU Central Committee decision will give a powerful impetus to the accomplishment of the basis tasks for developing the branch in a more purposeful manner, and to signficantly improve leadership in the entire agroindustrial complex. [passage omitted]

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum expressed the confidence that the republic's party, administrative, trade union, Komsomol organizations, economic organs, and working people will do the utmost to give priority importance to grain farming, that they will comply with the CPSU Central Committee directives to significantly increase the output of grain and of other farm and stockbreeding produce, and will contribute their worthy part in the implementation of the socioeconomic program mapped out by the 27th party congress.

Auditing Commission Session

AU181618 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 9 Dec 86 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Auditing Commission"]

[Text] On 8 December the Ukrainian Communist Party Auditing Commission held a session, presided over by Comrade V.G. Malomuzh. The commission heard reports by Comrades M.V. Zelinskaya and Ya.M. Lavrenko on the methodological assistance given to auditing commissions in Chernovtsy Oblast and Kiev City party organizations in their work.

The Auditing Commission members examined the act on the results of a check into the fulfillment of the budget of the republic's party organization, and into the state of examining working people's letters, applications, and complaints addressed to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee in the first half of 1986. Comrade S.V. Voloshina delivered a report on the issue.

RATAU, Traffic Safety Discussed

AU191709 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 14 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Excerpts] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has summed up the results of the accountability and election campaign in the republic's basic party organizations. It was noted that the accountability and election meetings, the first to be held since the 27th CPSU Congress, were in essence a review of the progress made by low-level party organizations and labor collectives in restructuring their work and in accomplishing the tasks set for accelerating socioeconomic development. [passage omitted]

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has discussed the activity of the board and the party bureau of the Radio-Telegraphic Agency of the Ukraine [RATAU] in their work among cadres. In the adopted decision, it has been noted that the RATAU board and party bureau had carried out certain work to improve the selection, distribution, and education of cadres, and to perfect informative and propaganda activity. Steps are being taken to reinforce leading subunits with highly qualified specialists; the journalists, engineers, and technicians have been certified. A great deal has been done to reequip the agency.

At the same time it has been noted that the agency still was slow in restructuring in line with the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress. A reliable cadre reserve is nonexistent, exactingness with regard to oblast branches and their work, as well as to the agency's own correspondents has been slackened. The party bureau does not make full use of its rights and possibilities to create in the collective high mutual exactingness and strictness. As a result of this, the collective still does not fully accomplish the qualitatively new tasks set for it.

The RATAU board and party bureau have been requested to reinforce the leading sectors with talented, enterprising, and creative workers, to create an efficacious cadre reserve, to organize for the journalists a professional training and briefing, to significantly improve work among the agency's own field branches and correspondents, to thoroughly examine and more fully meet the needs of local papers for operative and good information, for photographs and illustrations. The collective has to make creative efforts to improve the quality of information and propaganda work, and to assist party organizations in restructuring their activity and in accomplishing the tasks set to accelerate socioeconomic development.

The Central Committee has examined the work performed by Dontesk Oblast party, administrative, and economic organs to implement party and government decisions to expand paid services to the population. [passage omitted]

The Central Committee has examined the causes of the passenger train crash at Korostovka station, on the Odessa railroad, and measures to promote traffic safety in the republic's railroad transport. In the adopted decision it was noted that the crash attested to grave shortcomings in the work performed by the commanding staff of the Odessa railroad administration, sections, and enterprises to tighten labor and technological discipline, and to increase the responsibility of cadres. At a number of enterprises, this has brought about an atmosphere of placidity and relaxation. A note was taken of the criminal proceedings instituted against the direct culprits of the crash, the engine driver and the assistant engine driver in Krivoy Rog-Kiev train No 635, and the fact that the functionaries who proved to be relaxed and complacent with regard to traffic safety had been brought to severe account.

Railroad leaders, party organizations, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms have been instructed to take exhaustive measures to tighten discipline, to induce all workers to strictly observe regulations and instructions for train traffic, and to improve the selection and education of cadres on whom safe operations depend.

SLYUNKOV SPEAKS AT MINSK KOMSOMOL CONFERENCE

LD202048 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] A town komsomol report-back and election conference was held today in Minsk, and there was a direct and exacting discussion about the problems of komsomol work. It was noted that the contribution of the young to the reconstruction and technical reequipping of enterprises, and in the struggle to boost the quality of output should be more weighty.

Comrade Slyunkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the conference.

HASHISH CONSIGNMENT DISCOVERED EN ROUTE TO WEST

PM191345 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

["Drugs for Europe: At the USSR Council of Ministers Main State Control Administration" -- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA headline]

[Text] In November 1986 state customs control organs thwarted an attempt to illegally transport drugs weighing more than 1.2 metric tons across the Soviet Union's territory in transit freight.

The competent organs are investigating.

State customs control organs discovered a large consignment of drugs worth approximately 30 million dollars in transit freight headed for West Europe across USSR territory.

More than 1 metric ton of hashish was hidden among raisins in container number CTIU-3085130 belonging to the U.S. firm Specific International. According to documents accompanying the cargo the container's destination in Europe was the firm of Nostrak GMBH Co KG with the address: Vorsetzen 39, 2000 Hamburg 2, West Germany.

The contraband cargo was confiscated. Its value makes a sum unprecedented in the history of the Soviet customs service.

As the TASS correspondent was told by Vitaliy Boyarov, first deputy head of the Main State Customs Control Administration under the Council of Ministers of the USSR, the Soviet side is taking all the necessary steps to prevent the "opium mafia" from using transit across Soviet territory in the interests of its drugs business. A more perfect methodology has been introduced to search for such cargoes on transit routes. It was developed with account taken also of the information supplied by the Dutch authorities which uncovered 200 kilograms of heroin in boxes of similar goods aboard the ship "Captain Thompson" in Rotterdan last August.

Computer processing of initial cargo data, the use of modern technical facilities and other "secrets" of the Soviet customs service, V. Boyarov said, help select more effectively containers suspected of holding contraband drugs out of a huge flow of containers. [paragraph continues]

At the same time he pointed out that the narcotics cargo, which was headed for the FRG and confiscated in the USSR, was a record haul for the customs service and that this cannot but draw attention of the world community to the danger underground "white death" factories in the so-called "Golden Crescent" zone represent for all. The briquettes of hashish found among the raisins were factory-made, securely factory-packed, and had a quality mark as well as a trademark -- two crossed Islamic sabres.

According to the information available to Soviet customs organs Afghan Dushmans and circles connected with them were directly involved in this drug affair. Practically all bandit formations of dushmans in the districts of Pakistan bordering on the DRA are engaged in the drug traffic going to Western Europe and the United States. Operating in the "Golden Crescent" zone are about 20 establishments producing narcotic drugs. They account for approximately 85 pér cent of heroin going to Western Europe and over a half of all narcotic drugs imported into the United States. The Northwest Frontier Province of Pakistan has become a vast plantation while laboratories for the manufacture of "white death" have been set up, with the help of foreign specialists, at the camps of dushmans controlled by Gulbeddin Hekmatiar. The latter is known to have been connected with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency since the late sixties. Sayed Ahmad Ghilani is also called the "heroin king" who now controls most of the "opium mafia" operations and enjoys the protection of U.S. Special Services. This is evidenced also by the well-known American writer Philip Bonosky who writes in his book "Washington's Secret War Against Afghanistan" that CIA agents are operating under the cover of the Drug Enforcement Administration which has a branch in Lahore. Their main task is to "stage conspiracies and provocations against Afghanistan."

This time the drug provocation was directed not only against the DRA but also against the Soviet Union, Vitaliy Boyarov said. At the time Moscow customs officers were unloading the poisonous cargo addressed to an FRG firm from the American container certain Western press organs hurried to accuse the Soviet Union of deliberately letting contraband narcotic drugs transit across its territory in order to poison Western Europe. It may well be that they were waiting in Hamburg for the arrival of the selfsame ill-starred containers which had got stuck at the customs in Moscow.

Petrovskiy Comments

LD191037 Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 19 TASS -- When asked about the seizure by Soviet customs of more than 1.2 tons of hashish that was being taken in transit through Soviet territory, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Vladimir Petrovskiy said that these were industrially manufactured narcotics in ordinary factory packing and with the necessary markings produced in the so called "Golden Crescent" zone.

The Afghan counter-revolutionaries in Pakistan and the circles connected with them are directly involved in the production and transportation of drugs. In fact all the Afghan counter-revolutionary groupings on the territory of Pakistan are engaged in this. The seizure of the drugs exposed a provocation by certain quarters abroad which tried to accuse the Soviet Union of supposedly specially allowing contraband drugs through its territory in order to poison Western Europe.

Judging by everything somebody was expecting the container in Hamburg in the hope of immediately starting a new propaganda extravaganza. But the provocation had failed.

The struggle against narcotics is a serious international matter and the Soviet Government imparts great importance to it, Vladimir Petrovskiy noted. It actively cooperates in international forums in the drafting of the relevant agreements and acts vigorously in practice. A real interaction of different states has been organised and is functioning in this field. The socialist countries are also interacting.

Further Details

LD192117 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1800 GMT on 18 December, in its "Vremya" newscast, carries a report on the confiscation of narcotics by Soviet customs authorities. The report says that "as has already been reported, State Customs Control bodies have thwarted an attempt to illegally transport a large batch of drugs through Soviet territory". Correspondent A. Tikhomirov then reports from Moscow's Komsomolskaya Ploshchad, where the drugs were discovered, noting that "the bigwigs of the international mafia have suffered a defeat." He speaks to V.K. Boyarov, the deputy head of the Main Directorate of the State Customs Control, who says that he has been receiving congratulatory calls all day, thanks to the announcement on yesterday's "Vremya."

The camera then shows a collection of photographs pinned to a wall, showing the container in which the drugs were being transported, the staff who seized them, packets of hashish. Tikhomirov says that "the smugglers have been punished to the sum of approximately $30 million. One could say that a time bomb aimed at thousands of people has been rendered harmless."

M.M. Moskalayev, head of Moscow's Central Customs Control, then says that "I have been working in customs for more than 40 years, and this is the first such case I have come across."

N.V. Talalayev, a senior customs inspector, then explains that the customs officials spent about 2 hours examining the container; the first boxes they examined were empty, but they eventually found narcotics. The camera then shows containers standing in the snow, as Tikhomirov says: "Just how they managed to pick out that container from among the hundreds of thousands passing through our country remains the custom officials' secret. This will probably not be the last such case. Let us just say that the examination was not carried out by chance. As for what happened next, we can see this from the following film shots prepared by customs workers." The camera then shows a sequence of shots in which wire cutters are used to enter a container marked "CTI"; a uniformed officer opens the door, revealing boxes marked "raisins" in English. The word "Afghan" is also printed on the same boxes. A sniffer dog is seen tearing a box open. Tikhomirov says that "it was not raisins that they were expecting in Hamburg, but poison in boxes marked with crosses: 1,217 kg of it in briquettes [words indistinct] and on each of them a crossed-swords trademark denoting special quality, as if they had gone through a technical control department." The camera then closes in on one of the briquettes in a customs officer's hands and on a box full of similar items.

The scene then switches to Boyarov's office; the correspondent displays the crossed-swords motif and asks Boyarov if he is familiar with it. Boyarov says: "We are relatively familiar with it -- it has become familiar to us because we have never previously intercepted loads like this. Our Soviet customs service has not come across such high quality drugs, particularly since these have been given a seal of quality as well -- factory-produced high quality."

Tikhomirov goes on to say: "Is it not the dushman ringleaders who are in charge of these factories? After all, the container came from Afghan territory."

"People dying from drug addiction is bad enough in itself, but are not the laundered dollars gained from selling the drugs used to buy weapons to kill more people?" Boyarov then says: "Screened by a whole range of forces with an interest in gaiing income from people's misfortune and suffering, from depraving people, they exist and indeed prosper. We have the impression that the international community, which must fight against such types of crime, has not yet succeeded in doing much to provide clear prospects of an end to this misfortune." Asked what will happen to the drugs intercepted, Boyarov says: "This haul will be destroyed because it cannot be put to any use, even for domestic requirements. As for when it will be destroyed, if the mass information bodies are interested in taking part in the act of burning this haul, then we shall invite you."

Investigation in Progress

PM191331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 86 First Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "In the Main Administration for State Customs Control Under the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] Organs of the State Customs Control thwarted in November 1986 an attempt to smuggle a consignment of more than 1.2 metric tons of drugs in transit through the Soviet Union's territory.

An investigation is being conducted by the competent organs.

SAKHAROV ASKS GORBACHEV FOR GENERAL AMNESTY

AU202006 Paris AFP in English 2005 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Paris, Dec 20 (AFP) -- Dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov appealed to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to declare a general amnesty for all political prisoners when the two spoke on the telephone before Mr. Sakharov's release from internal exile, friends here said Saturday.

They said that when Mr. Gorbachev telephoned Mr. Sakharov on Tuesday to tell him that he and his wife Yelena Bonner could return to Moscow from Gorkiy after almost seven years of banishment, Mr. Sakharov pleaded with him to free all political prisoners.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner reportedly told Mr. Gorbachev that he had been deeply saddened at the recent death in prison in Chistopol in the central Soviet Union of his friend Anatoliy Marchenko.

"I warned you that it could happen," Mr. Sakharov told the Soviet leader, his friends said, referring to a letter he had written in February.

"He is dead but it is not too late to save others," Mr Sakharov said.

Mr. Marchenko, who was a co-founder of the Independent Interprofessional Workers Free Trade Union, was serving a 10-year sentence of hard labour for "anti-Soviet propaganda and agitation". He died on December 10.

Mr. Sakharov's friends said that when he pleaded with the Soviet leader to declare a general amnesty for political prisoners, Mr. Gorbachev replied, "We have freed certain people but among them there are all sorts of people."

Mr Sakharov replied "Yes, certainly, but they all need to be released."

The Soviet leader then told him, "Good. But you will return to Moscow to continue your work for science and your country," to which Mr Sakharov responded that the conversation was in itself a "patriotic" act.

He had told the Soviet number one that if he was genuinely interested in his country's prosperity he should declare a general amnesty.

SOVIET DISSIDENT JEMILEV REPORTEDLY RELEASED

HK210904 Hong Kong AFP in English 0839 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, Dec 21 (AFP) -- Soviet dissident Mustafa Jemilev, who was serving an 18-year sentence in a Siberian labour camp for "anti-Soviet propaganda", has been released, his friends said here on Sunday.

Mr Jemilev, 43, led a campaign for Tatars deported from the Crimea by Stalin to be allowed to return.

His friends said he had telephoned them early last week to tell them of his imminent release.

On Friday the Soviet authorities announced that the dissident physicist Andrey Sakharov was being allowed to return to Moscow and resume work at the academy of sciences.

Mr Sakharov, who had been in internal exile in Gorkiy for nearly seven years, signed a petition calling for Mr Jemilev's release in 1974.

According to Mr Jemilev's friends, he was freed by a court in Mogadan, in north-east Siberia, which found him guilty of slandering the Soviet system, but gave him a suspended sentence. Mr Jemilev had already served 12 years.

The labour camp authorities told him he was free to return home to Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan in Soviet central Asia. Lev Kopelev, a writer friend in Bremen, West Germany, said that Mr Jemilev had been released Friday.

Whole communities of Tatars were deported from the Crimea to Soviet Central Asia on Stalin's orders in 1944 on the grounds of their "treason and collaboration" with the Nazis.

Formally rehabilitated in 1967, nine years after Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev termed their deportation "genocide", the Tatars have still never been authorised to return to the Crimea.

ELECTRIC SUPPLY PROBLEMS, DELAYS NOTED

LD211917 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Commentary by (Sergey) Omelchenko]

[Summary] Electricity is a very important part of our lives, and power workers have been working hard to meet their target of increasing production over the year by almost 70 billion kilowatts. "As is known, due to the losses of capacity at Chernobyl AES and the restructuring of the work of other atomic power stations this summer and fall, the main burden of guaranteeing reliable power supplies has fallen to the thermal power stations, and it is these which have provided a record increase in electricity production. Naturally, this has required extreme precision, responsibility, and discipline. The servicing, modernization, and reconstruction of power facilities is much more organized than last year; only 21 enterprises out of 1,200 have failed to be certified as ready for the winter, which is considerably better than before."

Reserves for more efficient working have been successfully brought into play. The fourth set of Kursk AES was put into operation ahead of schedule, the experimental solar station in Crimea is now operational, and the 1,150 kilovolt Ekibastuz-Kustanay power line has carried current. "However, the power construction workers' bad practice of handing over projects behind schedule has still not been overcome. Before me is the latest information from the USSR Ministery of Power on the progress of precommissioning work at stations under construction. Commissioning dates have not been kept to for power sets at Kalinin, Zaporozhye, and Rovno AES, and at Surgut and Novoangren GRES. There is a whole list with the remark 'considerable delays,' of which I shall name only the biggest stations -- Balakovo and Khmelnitskiy AES, Zagorsk pumped-water-storage station, and Berezovo GRES. And how many long-drawn out construction projects there are around the country. Of course, it is not only the power construction workers who are to blame for such a situation, but also the planning bodies. However, there is only one outcome -- the country is suffering considerable economic expense. The program for development of power engineering over this 5-year plan is large in scale, and much remains to be done in order to fulfill it."

HIGHER QUALITY BREAD APPEARS IN MOSCOW BAKERIES

LD220543 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Many of the Muscovites going into bakeries today will be able to purchase new varieties of bread. As of Monday Rossiyskiy, Stolichnyy and Darnitskiy bread -- made from a blend of rye and wheat flour, as well as three wheat varieties -- will appear on the shelves. Conversely, the manufacture of some unpopular varieties of bread is being discontinued. We should emphasize that the retail price of all the new products is only 304 kopecks more. Economists have calculated that every one of us buying the new varieties of bread with the current volume of its consumption will increase their expenditure by approximately a kopeck a day. However, we are talking of significant improvement in the quality of bread.

BRIEFS

MILITIA OFFICER HONORED -- By a decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Vladimir Andreyevich Bortsov, an official of the Izobilnaya Rayon Department of Internal Affairs and major of the militia, has been posthumously awarded the Order of the Red Star for courage and selfless action displayed in the execution of his official duty. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Dec 86 LD]

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MOSCOW TV CARRIES DISCUSSION ON SDI ISSUES

LD230052 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Dec 86

["Repercussions" program on the theme "The U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative: Its Objectives and Consequences; the Plans and Reality; Who Is For It and Who Is Against It?" introduced by political observer Georgiy Zubkov with the participation of USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Bessmertnykh; Academician Vitaliy Iosifovich Goldanskiy; Major General Yuriy Viktorovich Lebedev, deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff Treaty and Legal Directorate; Andronik Melkonovich Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy; and political observer Boris Aleksandrovich Kalyagin -- live, except for recorded video introduction]

[Excerpts] [Begin recording; video shows series of unidentified people interviewed on the street]

[Woman] I am very worried by the problem of SDI and by Mr Reagan's behavior.

[Man] Are the people in the United States being sensible? What does the Reagan administration hope for? After all, 10 percent of these warheads will reach their territory anyway. What are they hoping for?

[Man] I have thought a little about this U.S. defense initiative which, of course, is a foul act against mankind. Doesn't it seem to you that the next President after Reagan will make a start and -- even if only for publicity considerations -- simply return to the existing level of approximate parity?

[Man] How long can this go on?

[Man] After all, they do not have any intention of launching an attack, so they say. So, where does the answer lie?

[Man] There is yet another question with regard to the plans for cooperation in space. Is there still some sort of hope that Soyuz and Apollo, even if under different names, at some future time will fly into space, after a period of time has elapsed, in maybe 5 or 10 years? Well, that is what I'd like to find out.

[Man] I know a bit about the SDI program and what specifically it represents. People all around us have no idea what it is.

[Woman] If there is peaceful cooperation is space then there will never be a war. I have a verse of my own and I will recite it:

I believe that the Earth's destiny is to grow wiser within the universe,
Our home -- our own planet -- will not perish;
Its savior will be matchless combination
Of mighty reason and the power of light.

I have our sun in mind. [end recording]

[Zubkov] Good evening, comrades. Our broadcast today is devoted to various aspects of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative of the United States. It is a most topical and a most important subject. The SDI program has turned out to be the central point of solving such vitally important international problems as nuclear disarmament, the strengthening of security, and the lessening of international tension.

And even conversation that took place with passers-by in the streets of Moscow is a kind of viewers' introduction to our broadcast. It shows both your interest in the subject that has been chosen and a multitude of questions which arise in connection with the SDI program.

The participants in our broadcast today will help answer them. Let me introduce them to you:

Deputy USSR Foreign Minister Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Bessmertnykh, who has been engaged in diplomatic work since 1957; he worked in Washington and was head of the U.S. Department at the USSR Foreign Ministry;

Academician Vitaliy Iosifovich Goldanskiy, Lenin Prize winner, known through his works in chemical and nuclear physics, is deputy chairman of the Board of the All-Union Knowledge Society and takes an active part in the International Pugwash Movement of Scientists for peace and disarmament;

Major-General Yuriy Viktorovich Lebedev, deputy chief of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, graduated from the Dzherzhinskiy Military Artillery Academy, served in the troops and was a participant in the Soviet-U.S. disarmament talks;

Andranik Melkonovich Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy, mechanical engineer by education, worked in production and occupied leading posts in the engineering industry, and for many years has been in charge of research in the utilization of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. He is academician of the Armenian SSR Academy of Sciences;

My colleague Boris Aleksandrovich Kalyagin, political observer of Central Television, was, as you remember, our television correspondent in Delhi and London.

Our talk today is the first live broadcast with replies to viewers' questions on international affairs, so its success does not only depend on the broadcast's participants, but also on your activeness, comrades, on your responses which we shall receive here via the telephone numbers that are shown in our Central Television studio. Some questions have already been received. They are contained in the letters addressed to Central Television and we shall use them, too.

Proceeding from the name of the broadcast that has been announced, let us examine three chapters of the SDI program: its objectives and consequences, the plans and reality, who is for it and who is against it. I repeat: We are waiting for your questions concerning these problems. And, for the time being, let us recall that the SDI program is linked to President Reagan's initiative on strategic defense. It was announced in one of Reagan's speeches, in March 1983 almost 3 years ago. What is SDI, the program of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative? Let us examine its military, scientific, and political aspects. Obviously, all the participants in our broadcast will have their say. Well, evidently you, Yuriy Viktorovich, will have the floor.

[Lebedev] All right. Before I say what SDI is, I would like to state unequivocally that it is a program for making arms which was announced by President Reagan on 23 March 1983. The world finds this program literally disturbing, and this has already been the case for a few years. What do they intend to do? What do they intend to create by keeping this program? It envisages the creation of large-scale ABM system, an antiballistic missile defense system with space-based elements. And, apart from that, in the context of creating arms for this kind of system, it is planned to develop offensive space weapons capable of striking targets equally in space, in the air, on earth, or on the surface of water. What will comprise the ABM system?

Well, antimissile missiles -- the antimissile missiles for long-range interception of ballistic targets and the antimissile missiles for close-range interception, that is to say interception already within the atmosphere -- are, as is known, the classic, traditional way of combating ballistic missiles worked out back in the sixties.

Well now, those who are developing [razrabatyvat] the SDI wish to deploy weapons, offensive weapons, in space. This makes it possible in practice to strike targets on the territory of any state in very brief periods of time. It is proposed to deploy in space the target detection devices, guidance devices, and target destruction devices. Moreover, these devices are being developed [razrabatyvat] on the basis of new physical principles. These include kinetic weapons, that is to say these can be ballistic missiles, guided missiles, directional beam weapons, such as laser weapons and, finally, electromagnetic emission weapons.

And so you have hanging over our planet weapons that are intended to intercept a ballistic missile along the whole of its flightpath and destroy it. The destruction of such missiles is supposed to happen both in the initial, or active, phase of the flight of such a missile, in the phase of separation of the warheads from this missile, the so-called ballistic phase of a missile's flight, and finally, in the descent phase of the missile, where existing and most highly developed weapons, so to speak, have been used and evidently will be used -- these are the short-range and long-range intercepting antimissile missiles. Thus the antimissile defense system and weapons being created [sozdat] under this program are, as I have stressed, weapons which the creators of this system claim are absolute. But there are no such weapons, so that the emergence of a new kind of weaponry, as is being developed [razrabotat] under the SDI program, will inevitably give rise to countermeasures, that is, there will arise a new impetus for the arms race, an arms race in both defensive and offensive weapons.

[Zubkov] We will undoubtedly be looking at this again in the second part of our program, but now, Vitaliy Iosifovich, would you please outline the scientific aspects of the SDI program? What is the essence of it?

[Goldanskiy] Well, it seems to me you could put it this way, that it concerns the development [razrabotka] of scientific and technological aspects of a very wide range of pulsed destructive effects on matter. And as Yuriy Viktorovich has already said, it is a matter of effects which will be implemented both in space and from space; that is, all the means for creating such effects would be connected with space or put into space. I would also like to stress that in the program, a very great role, a big part, is given over to planning for the maximum use of computerization; that is, there is an extremely broad application of computer technology. In essence, the destiny of mankind is being entrusted more and more to computers. This is particularly dangerous, since less and less time is given to making various decisions on different signals while the complexity of the task that has to be performed becomes greater and greater.

As far as these pulsed attack effects themselves are concerned, what is the meaning of pulsed effects here? Basically it is a matter of compressing the energy at our disposal as much as possible, either in time, that is, increasing the power of the effect by making it a very short-lived and powerful pulse, or, compressing it in space, which is even more to the point in this case, in the framework of this program.

Speaking specifically about one of the important elements of the SDI program, this means a nuclear-pumped X-ray laser -- you hear about this very often. What do they have in mind? What they have in mind is that the energy of a nuclear explosion, which in a normal nuclear weapon is spread equally in all directions, should be concentrated in certain given directions by the rays, the several dozens of rays, of this X-ray laser.

Thus the energy is provided by the explosion itself, while the effect is directed so that the power in these chosen directions becomes extremely enhanced. So it is clear that we are dealing with the task of creating [sozdaniye] what are weapons based truly on new principles.

[Zubkov] Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, of course we shall be returning frequently to the political aspects of SDI, which have become important in resolving the problem of nuclear disarmament. But could you begin by speaking about how important the SDI program now is for the whole of today's international situation?

[Bessmertnykh] I think we have already established that this concerns the creation [sozdaniye] of a new kind of weapon, not a type but a kind. We have spoken a little about the fact that ways exist for the scientific-technological attainment of this aim. All this is yet to come, to a certain extent; that is, the program is gathering pace. As a political problem, however, SDI already exists. It is already hampering international life, it is undermining opportunities to achieve accord, and it is complicating in the extreme the talks between the Soviet Union and the United States, as is shown by the meetings between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and President Reagan last year in Geneva and in Reykjavik in October this year. In fact, the problem of SDI was pivotal and central at these meetings as well. That is, as a political problem, SDI is a very resounding one, if one could put it like that.

Furthermore, the specific effect of SDI on talks and on public opinion lies in the fact that, as I see it, we are dealing with one of the greatest mystifications that has ever occurred -- political mystifications, that is. SDI has been given a very attractive package, and Mikhail Sergeyevich once said plainly about this, that it is attractive packaging for very suspicious and dangerous goods. It is particularly dangerous right now precisely because it upsets the normal course of international affairs, normal contacts and dialogue, and just as the iceberg kept undermining the Titanic, so this undermines the possibility of progress on the most vital issues of our times. And so it is understandable that it is the political aspect of SDI -- and by the way we have borrowed the name SDI from the Americans, in fact it has been created by all the yardsticks of advertising, it means Strategic Defense Initiative; all the words are very fine, but the essence of SDI is very ominous. And so in order for us to carefully come to grips with this problem, once again we must look behind these fine words, which are very attractive, and I think that is what we shall be doing today.

[Zubkov] Thank you very much. Now what we are waiting for from you, Andronik Melkonovich, is for you to speak about whether SDI is really a defense initiative, as indicated in its own terms, or whether it is an offensive weapon, and so, could you begin with this?

[Petrosyants] From the brief conversations so far it is very clear that SDI is by no means a shield, by no means a defense but an outright offensive weapon. SDI as a shield is an unconcealed propaganda trick, behind which they are trying, or so far have been trying, to conceal direct action weapons. And (?you have all) spoken quite correctly concerning the fact that SDI will in its turn force a counteraction. Every action has its reaction.

[Zubkov] Unfortunately, that is a fact. The first questions are already coming in, and one is from Comrade Aleksandr Alekseyevich Nagorniy from Moscow: Is there any point in taking any notice of SDI? Perhaps we should ignore it and deal with our own problems.

[Petrosyants] Well, I'll go on anyway, thank you. What I want to say is this, that SDI has as its foundation the X-ray laser with a nuclear pump. And what is that? It combines a high level of power (?removed from a unit of volume of the medium) with a high level of energy in the pulse. And Vitaliy put it very well.

It is indeed in this respect that the carrying out of nuclear explosions is very important. Without the carrying out of nuclear explosions, without those, neither we nor anyone else would get any nuclear pump. And, what's more, this is why the United States are insisting so stubbornly on continuing nuclear explosions. Of course there is a whole range of other considerations, too, but these include precisely this: the obtaining of a nuclear-pumped X-ray laser.

[Zubkov] As we expected, very many questions have already come in -- here they are gathered together in a single bundle. These are the questions, but essentially they are boil down to this: How are we going to respond to the SDI program? What will our response be? Albert Petrovich Limakov, an engineer from Moscow; Vitaliy Vladimirovich Zagasin, an electrician; Nikolayev, a lathe operator from Nikolayev; and other comrades ask about this. Perhaps we will first of all give an answer to these and then continue the discussion, Yuriy Viktorovich?

[Lebedev] Yes, we certainly must answer these questions.

[Zubkov] Essentially the questions boil down to one thing: How are we going to be able to reply? Those that I have read, this bundle of questions, put it in different words, but, yes, go on.

[Lebedev] Essentially the questions are about what it is that makes SDI dangerous.

[Zubkov] And they are about our countermeasures.

[Lebedev] Yes, and they are about our countermeasures. But I have already said that SDI first and foremost is a weapon, and primarily an offensive weapon, first because this weapon, in space augments the strategic offensive potential possessed by the United States; that is to say, this weapon, deployed in space, is capable of creating the illusion that the possibility of a Soviet retaliatory strike would be undermined. In that event there could be those capable of reaching out for the "button" in order to try and test their strength. Consequently, this is fraught with the danger of war breaking out. Besides, these weapons, deployed in space, are intended to destroy the eyese and ears of the other side, and I am referring to the struggle against the satellites, the artificial earth satellites, the purpose of which is to monitor [kontrol] and to give early warning of missile attack. In destroying them the enemy could, of course, find himself in a difficult situation. So all of this is aimed at creating conditions for delivering a first nuclear strike.

[Zubkov] (?Defense comes afterwards)

[Lebedev] Certainly. But of course hopes of achieving any rights of that kind for the United States remain illusory. The Soviet Union is a state which is capable of responding in a fitting way to intrigues which threaten its defensive capability. What ways do we choose for this? We have great possibilities. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has already spoken of the fact that our scientists and our engineers have been given the task: They are working on the measures that we can pit against SDI. It has to be stated directly that both U.S. and Soviet scientists have said that measures, countermeasures, against SDI can be much cheaper, much simpler, and developed much more quickly than the antimissile system itself which is being developed [sozdavatsya] under the SDI program. Even Western specialists say that both defensive means and active -- that is to say, offensive -- means can be used here. What are the means that we will choose? Well, evidently this will be decided by our specialists depending upon the situation that comes about.

One thing is clear: We are of course not going to go along the road that the United States is proposing to us. We are going to choose our own road. And I think that that road will be effective and that the U.S. antimissile defense will of course not allow the United States to hope that the Soviet Union will be incapable, in a counterstrike, of giving a fitting response to those plans which the United States is currently hatching.

[Zubkov] Thank you. Boris Aleksandrovich, could you tell us about the arguments that are being used by Western propaganda in support of the SDI program?

[Kalyagin] The main argument used by U.S. propaganda, by the U.S. Administration, is to be found in the title of this program: It is called a defense initiative, and we have already spoken about that. That is why President Reagan took offense when Edward Kennedy, the well-known Democratic senator, called this program "Star Wars." But no matter what President Reagan did in his attempts to get rid of this very meaningful description, nothing came of it; it became fixed very firmly to that concept. And so U.S. propaganda asserts that what is intended is the development [sozdaniye] of defensive nonnuclear weapons that are targeted not against people but only against nuclear missiles, and that in the event of their being launched, in the event of their being used as first-strike weapons, they do not, before, represent any danger to us. But this has already been discussed very well by other participants in this meeting.

I can add further the fact that SDI envisages the development [sozdaniye] of weapons with a range of 4-5,000 km. What kind of defensive weapon is that? It is an all-purpose weapon, and of course it can be used for all purposes.

And there is also the following argument which President Reagan likes to use, that SDI will lead to the withering away, to the obsolescence, of nuclear weapons and will render them unnecessary -- in other words, the role virtually of deliverer of mankind from the nuclear threat is being ascribed to the Star Wars program, to the SDI program. But the U.S. Administration is playing upon the fear that people quite naturally have in the face of the nuclear threat. Reagan sometimes says that the concept of mutual assured nuclear destruction is in effect immoral, that it must be replaced, and that SDI will help to do that.

Well, indeed, such a concept does exist. It means that an outbreak of nuclear conflict is deterred by the understanding that in it there will be no victor, that both sides have enough weapons to destroy each other. We do not consider this to be an ideal situation either. And we have proposed a clear and direct path -- the path of rejection of nuclear weapons, which has been set down in the well-known historic statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. In Reykjavik, too, we proposed that strategic arms should be given up and that there should be no embarking upon SDI.

All would appear to be clear, but the United States is refusing. Reagan says that SDI is essential as an insurance policy for the United States. An insurance policy against whom? If we agree to eliminate strategic nuclear arms there will be no ballistic missiles, so against whom is the insurance policy? It could be better described as an insurance policy for the arms manufacturers, one that will guarantee them increased profits. But the United States -- particularly the President himself -- says that at some time a madman will suddenly make his appearance and will want to reinvent nuclear weapons and use them against the United States for purposes of blackmail. But in my view making sledgehammers for cracking nuts is a much more sensible proposal than the version proposed by the President, that $1 trillion -- and now they are even saying that it will be more than that -- should be spent, and that hundreds of thousands of tons of the most complicated equipment should be put into space purely because a madman might turn up.

In my opinion making guns to shoot sparrows would be a much more reasonable proposal than the option being proposed by the President. And, furthermore, if those crazy terrorists do appear, they are most likely to use not a ballistic missile, which is difficult to construct and still more difficult to conceal; they would use a different, miniconventional method, so to speak, like a concealed van in which they could convey a nuclear warhead; so SDI would be of no avail. There are, of course, quite a few other arguments. For instance, it is claimed that the Soviet Union is very afraid of SDI, that it was SDI that forced us to sit down for talks. I think it would be better if Aleksandr Aleksandrovich answered this question.

[Zubkov] There are already some questions.

[Bessmertnykh] There are some questions. I would like to start with an interesting question. It is asked by Comrade Viktor Borisovich Maslov, from the town of Nezhinsk: What are the Americans counting on? It is a very simple and clear question. I think, if it were like that, everything would be simple; the conspiracy would be so obvious, the whole world could see the offensive weapons. Well, in that case, why is this program still on the wave of public support; in America it is even quite popular, and so on?

The question cuts to the core of the subject, so to speak. I think in order to understand the SDI program more thoroughly, the task of creating [sozdaniye] the new type of weapons of which we speak has to be placed in the context of strategy. Without that, nothing can be understood. I would not want anyone to gain the impression that this weapon is precisely and only of an offensive nature. This is the feeling we may be getting in this discussion. No, this weapon possesses both an offensive element and also a very strong defensive element. So, where does its danger lie?

The very strategic concept of the United States now is definitely offensive, and this weapon inserted in the core of this concept provides its really dangerous nature. Why? Well, insofar as the offensive element exists, it is clear: An offensive element is a weapon or an offensive type of weapon that destroys something. Either it will destroy our systems in space -- not only missiles -- or it will destroy targets on earth. But the defensive part of this concept is not quite understood, although I consider it to be no less dangerous than the offensive part.

Here you have already correctly said, comrades, that it is impossible to create a 100 percent impenetrable system, such a shield as would protect the United States from offensive types of weapons from, say, the other side. But the Americans -- experts are stressing this now -- realize that such a system cannot be created. So it is a question of creating a kind of umbrella with holes in it. And, of course, an umbrella with holes in it is no use to us when we get into a downpour, although it may play its part when it drizzles. And herein lies the dangerous defensive part of the system. For it is a non-100 percent system that ensures, provides a temptation to mount a nuclear first strike. What is the calculation? A strike would be mounted against Soviet strategic systems, against its administrative systems. Naturally, the weakened retaliatory strike wouldn't be a nuclear downpour but something weaker, and the Americans reckon they will be able to cope with that, with the help of this system.

Incidentally, there is a very important aspect which has to be borne in mind. They have been saying, especially Reagan, and for some time his secretary of defense, Weinberger, that the SDI system will replace nuclear weapons. So far he is showing us that this is not so. All systems of offensive strategic weapons are starting to be developed at accelerated rates, like the MX missiles, for instance. It is very curious that they are being located in the silos of existing Minuteman missiles.

Quite recently -- Yuriy Viktorovich will confirm this -- the United States was saying that the Minuteman missiles were very vulnerable because they were located in silos. So why now are the MX's going to be shoved down the same silos? Because they will be useful in the event of a first strike, that is, if the Soviet missiles get to the area of these missile fields there will not be any MX's there. They will have left already, so to speak.

[Zubkov] There are now some specific questions to do with our second, more fundamental part, on the plans and realities of SDI. Here is a specific question about the nuclear laser trigger and other, more detailed ones, but as an introductory visual preface we also want to show a small firm clip, which we now offer you.

[passage omitted: 3-minute video film shows the history of wars from the earliest times to the present time, beginning with old swords and guns, the earliest planes, World War II footage, modern film of missiles, killer satellites, and ending with "Star Wars" film footage]

[Zubkov] Good, well, we now come to the second part of our program in which we have decided to discuss the SDI plans, that is the actual real projects and the realities which now exist. Here there are many questions which boil down to one thing, which we will cover in more detail now, about what the United States has managed to do in the past years for a real implementation of the SDI program. Well, we could start with you, Vitaliy Iosifovich, because if I am not mistaken you have personally and direcctly visited all, or rather, one of the three U.S. laboratories where the SDI program is being developed [razrabatyvayetsya].

[Goldanskiy] Yes, several years ago I went to Los Alamos, the main laboratory for SDI.

[Zubkov] What does it look like? Is it an underground fort, or what?

[Goldanskiy] No, no. It is a plateau in New Mexico; there is a little brook flowing there. At one time, 40 years ago, it was entirely desert; then it was chosen for developing the Manhattan Project there. Now it is a typical U.S. township not far from the big city of Santa Fe. There is a residential town there as well, near the laboratory itself, which was for a long time the main weapons laboratory of the United States.

[Zubkov] And what went on inside?

[Goldanskiy] As for what went on inside, naturally I did not see everything that went on there. However, when I was there, I met in particular with people who worked at Los Alamos with another type of problem concerning shortwave lasers, including those in the Angstrom range -- this is the so-called Gamma laser. Well, we had meetings with them and it should be said that, even prior to that, people from this laboratory, just like people from Livermore, visited the Soviet Union and took part in a conference held in Novosibirsk in 1974, organized at that time by Rem Viktorovich Khokhlov, our very prominent scientist who at that time was also dealing with this problem. Incidentally, one of the questions here...

[Zubkov, interrupting] Is about nuclear pumping, yes?

[Goldanskiy] Well, there are not many questions about X-ray pumping lasers or, generally, about the nuclear aspect...

[Zubkov, interrupting] If at all possible, explain this in layman's terms as much as possible.

[Goldanskiy] Well, I have already tried to say a little about this and I wish to say that maybe later on I will return to it, but here we have a question from Bursak, an engineer from Moscow; that promises were made in the United States to hand over to the USSR the SDI technology. Will a direct request be made along diplomatic channels concerning the transfer of this technology? Well, at the end of my reply, maybe I will say a few words on this score.

Well, first and foremost, I wish yet again to emphasize that the nuclear aspect is a very important part of the SDI program. It is, in essence, the transfer of nuclear arms to space, thus constituting a violation of the entire system of treaties, beginning with the 1967 Space Treaty, and the 1972 ABM Treaty -- which is basically the foundation of security and is an international treaty. It is also the main obstacle to be found at present to the halting of nuclear tests. I had occasion to see this for myself for the umpteenth time 2 months ago when I was in Canada, attending a very specialized and, I would say, a very responsible conference on monitoring and banning nuclear tests. This was attended by people from both Livermore and Los Alamos.

Well, the fact that it is proposed to bring nuclear arms for SDI into space is giving rise, one must say, to a great deal of indignation among numerous U.S. scientists, and this serves as a very important argument for them. Maybe toward the end, when we have returned to the question of who is for and who is against SDI, I would like to analyze the U.S. scientists' views more extensively; here I would just like to quote from what possibly are very typical letters.

Well, an American writes, that is to say a U.S. physicist writes in the magazine PHYSICS TODAY -- he is a man who earlier, in 1983, in the same journal supported the Presidential initiative -- that over the past few years SDI activities have dramatically increased in scope. One direction of SDI which worries me more than any other is the development of X-ray lasers pumped by nuclear explosions. This approach to SDI not only contradicts the nonnuclear defense announced by President Reagan, it can also lead to a dangerously unstable situation which will render the very concept of SDI ineffective. The deployment [razmeshcheniye] in space of nuclear weapons, even if for defensive purposes, will inevitably lead to the development of offensive nuclear space arms, thereby invalidating the SDI concept.

Here we have yet another precise statement. It is of particular interest in view of the fact that it is a statement by (Silan Rockwood), director of the SDI department in Los Alamos. He writes: What would you think if a satellite of this kind -- he is referring here to a space-based X-ray laser [words indistinct]. Well, he is talking of just one of them. Multiply this by thousands and you will then get the same question in an even bolder relief. What would you think if a satellite of this kind passed over Washington five times in any 24-hour period, knowing that nuclear arms are on board the satellite?

Would you believe that this is only defensive armament and not something that could be dropped on your head without any prior notification or warning? Well, here we have a man who has formulated the political aspect with great clarity. I will now return to this question.

[Zubkov] Let's return, because, yes, let me just, maybe I will here simply, very simply, read what was written in the paper, the French magazine LE POINT.

[Goldanskiy] Yes.

[Zubkov] Well, it is written in very simple language here; please provide a scientific commentary on this.

[Goldenskiy] Maybe I, too, will try to provide it in simple language?

[Zubkov, laughing] Now be kind enough to let me read it, yes? After a missile has been launched -- this means that these missiles are, as it were, Soviet missiles: there is talk of the enemy here -- it could be possible to explode in space a nuclear device from a U.S. submarine, a device that is compatible with a laser gun. The energy of the explosion, having turned into radiation of very great power in the laser tubes, would be turned forthwith against the enemy's missiles, thousands of kilometers away, and these missiles would be destroyed. Well, this scheme...

[Goldanskiy, interrupting] Let me try, so to speak...

[Zubkov resumes] Yes, please, so that the essence of this nuclear pumping, this nuclear explosion, is understandable. And it is necessary, because of that, generally, so to speak, to call these weapons nuclear weapons.

[Goldanskiy] Undoubtedly nuclear, since the energy needed for the laser to operate later on is created through a nuclear explosion. After all, imagine a nuclear bomb in space, of whatever capacity. This bomb is surrounded by a system of needles. Several dozen such needles contain atoms which subsequently function by the radiation of these very same X-rays. During a nuclear explosion a very great number of X-rays are released. During a normal explosion, this X-ray radiation -- as I said at the beginning -- is spread uniformly in the space surrounding the center of the explosion. In this case, the main idea is this: The X-ray radiation will immediately excite the atoms of, let us say, iron or some other element that forms part of the composition of these needles, and it will immediately excite them to such an extent that you will have more excited atoms in these needles than atoms in their basic state. I am forced to use scientific terminology a little. Then, given this, these atoms, these needles, will become not absorbers of X-ray radiation, but sources of radiation, sources of this stimulated, as they call it, X-ray radiation. And that is why the energy of the explosion is transformed into the energy of X-ray radiation, but this time it is guided radiation. The X-rays will be directed, guided along the direction the needles are facing.

The computers' task in all this -- and maybe it is this that shows right away just how insanely complex this whole task is, just how unrealisitic is this task of this alleged defense initiative -- a task to be performed in very short time intervals -- the computers are supposed to recognize and identify the missiles in flight and, moreover, to orient each and every needle in such a way that the X-ray it emits is directed against some specific missile, whose trajectory must be computed with the speed of lightning, and thus several dozen missiles would be hit simultaneously.

Well, that is the basis of the X-ray laser. Another question that I have here...

[Zubkov, interrupting] I have a request: Please let us have questions that are somewhat shorter, since we have very many questions, so that we shall be able to answer most of them.

[Goldanskiy] I think that scientific questions are less comprehensible, and maybe this is the reason why it is necessary to explain them in greater detail. And the question here is this: Won't the nuclear pumping, with the aid of nuclear explosions, lead to a nuclear winter? Nuclear winter is an extraordinarily dangerous thing, one that generally threatens mankind's existence in the event of a nuclear war, but the pumping of these lasers has no direct bearing on nuclear winter. The only bearing it has is that it increases the danger of nuclear war, because nuclear winter comes about as a consequence of explosions taking place in cities, in forests, where enormous quantities of dust are thereby thrown up into the atmosphere.

[Zubkov] Furthermore, there are some questions, some very specific and practical questions along the same lines and dealing with approximately the same subject. Take, say, the question from Comrade Lev Georgiyevich Kovalev, who is an electrical engineer. He asks, Yuriy Viktorovich, what will happen to the warheads when missiles are intercepted in the air, say, and hit? Will they explode? This question is for you, Comrade General. And where will they explode?

[Lebedev] How is the question put? Please repeat it for me.

[Zubkov] If missiles are intercepted will their warheads explode or will they not explode? Where will they fall, these nuclear explosions? Where will they take place? In the atmosphere? On earth?

[Lebedev] If they are intercepted by our means, these...

[Zubkov, interrupting] No, it means by the U.S. defensive means.

[Lebedev] Ah, by the U.S ones, is that it? Yes, certainly they will explode, and the scenario of intercepting warheads, say, during the final part of the trajectory of intercontinental ballistic missiles, is an extremely risky venture, for I want to say that these warheads can be created [sozdany] in such a way that they will have some kind of time fuses [distantsionnyy vzryvatel] and these explosions, taking place over cities, will still inflict very serious losses upon cities, both upon the population and the targets themselves.

[Zubkov] Thank you. There have been some very important questions dealing with international affairs connected wtih SDI.

[Bessmertnykh] I think that our discussion is getting to this point because it's getting quite useful with everything that we've been talking about. Perhaps we ought to be fighting to ensure that this doesn't happen.

[Zubkov] We have questions not just from Moscow and from other cities in our country, but from Bratislava, too, so (?I mention it) especially.

[Bessmertnykh] Comrade Andrey Gennadiyevich Kondrakov from Moscow asks the following question: In his speech, Comrade Gorbachev said that we are not afraid of the SDI program. Why, then, did he not sign the treaty? There is a similar question from Akim Sadykovich Yakubov, a driver from Moscow. And Roni Ataliyevich Zadayev put it like this: When are we going to stop indulging this actor from the United States?

I feel that it is not just the scientific and technical aspects of the problem but the political ones, too, that are not all that clear to all our comrades, for they really are very, very complex. What happened at the talks? And what are we speaking about when we say we are not afraid of SDI? We really are not afraid of the SDI as a military program -- this was stated by our party general secretary -- insofar as possible countermeasures to possible alternative forms of deployment [razvertyvaniye] of the very weapons themselves are already being studied. Scientists and military specialists have been given tasks and, as far as I understand it, they have worked out definite responses and concepts of responses directly as far as the weapons are concerned.

However, why then did we not enter into some accords concerning nuclear arms reduction in Reykjavik? The fact is that while we have no fear of SDI as a military and technical problem, we see all the enormous dangers of this program for the overall military and strategic situation and for the survival of mankind as a whole.

Why? Well, in the first place because new types of armaments are being brought into being, and we have already discussed this aspect. We do not even know yet what they will be like. Here we are sketching some possibilities that our imagination suggests to us. However, perhaps there will also be something quite different.

Besides this, SDI spurs on the modernization of armaments in the whole broad spectrum of both strategic and even conventional armaments. These armaments are capable of taking something from this program. But the main thing is the fact that SDI, if it is deployed [razvernut], would inevitably lead to a situation in which the other country, even before a conflict has broken out -- so far we have been sorting out conflict situations, but once the missiles fly we shoot them down and vice versa -- now the most likely situation might be one in which the SDI system has been developed [sozdavat] but that nevertheless the missiles are not in flight. [sentence as heard] And by the very fact of its existence, and even by the fact of its imminence, SDI is destabilizing the international situation.

What happened at Reykjavik? We put forward broad and far-reaching proposals: That strategic offensive weapons should be cut completely over a 10-year period, first cutting them by 50 percent, and then by a further 50 percent, or in other words taking them down to zero; that medium-range missiles in Europe should be eliminated completely; that medium-range missiles should be reduced to 100 warheads in Asia, and that the United States would get the same number. But just imagine a situation in which the United States would develop [sozdavat] this self-same SDI, the offensive and defensive component of which is now so clear to us, at the same time as we undertake such serious measures for real disarmament. And what did the United States demand and ask for in Reykjavik? In the first place that they should be permitted to carry out research and tests of this system in space; and in the second place that they should be given the right in any event 10 years from now to deploy this system, irrespective of the way in which things are going with us.

Under such conditions, which really place our security in such a serious situation, could the soviet side undertake such far-reaching scenarios, shall we say, of nuclear disarmament? That is simply impossible because then we would naturally be in a very complicated military and strategic situation. Besides SDI, the United States would of course also be left with its forward-based system in Europe and so on and so forth.

Political and state caution, therefore, obliges us to achieve a situation in which SDI is not deployed. We gave the Americans the possibility of doing some work on it, so to speak, to research it, to test it in laboratories, by all means, but let that be enough.

[Lebedev] I would like to add to what Aleksandr Aleksandrovich has been saying here: Comrade Valeriy Petrovich Voynov from Moscow continues in a way what Aleksandr Aleksandrovich has been saying. He says that if we reached an agreement on disarmament in Reykjavik, then what would there be left for the United States to defend itself against? Well, the question and an accord about nuclear disarmament being possible was indeed specifically raised in Reykjavik. And our proposals were accepted by the U.S. side. And of course in that case SDI would appear to be quite unnecessary; there would be nothing to defend themselves against; no nuclear weapons. But evidently the fact that the United States has made the SDI into an obstacle to the implementation of this practical accord shows that words about being committed to nuclear disarmament remain for the present nothing more than words, and that the United States is not prepared for nuclear disarmament.

[Zubkov] There are some related questions about the talks in Reykjavik; It's a fairly interesting question.

[Bessmertnykh] Were we counting on the agreement of the United States during the statement [as heard] by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and during the talks in Iceland or in Geneva? Were we able to count on the opposite being the case? And what conclusions ought to be drawn from this? That is to say, were we counting on reaching an accord? The concept of the meeting in Reykjavik, and of the meeting in Geneva before that, amounted to this, to proving and demonstrating to the President -- if he still failed to see this -- the whole of the dangerous consequences that go hand in hand with his program.

Mikhail Sergeyevich understood perfectly that Reagan had linked his political fate with this program. He is very committed to it. And taking, so to speak, a step toward meeting the U.S. President, he proposed that they should sort out carefully what it is about. In Geneva the U.S. President was told directly by our general secretary: We understand that you are very much involved and attracted by this problem; I have asked scientists and specialists to sort it out, and I report to you the conclusions that we have reached. This is where the danger of this program lies. Let's think it out together, let's think about how this can be avoided. In Reykjavik there was a second discussion, a very serious one, once again with the evidence produced, with very convincing arguments.

So, our policy on this is absolutely pragmatic, realistic; no one is floating in the clouds, thinking that the United States would give up SDI after two sets of talks. Finally, we have not yet asked them to give up the SDI program. This point has to be borne in mind. We have said to them: Please, we know from our calculations what SDI is. Our experts have given us the answer. If you are still not convinced, Mr President, go on studying in the laboratory; you have 10 years. Don't leave it, look into it, and you will come to the conclusions that we have obviously come to. If you reach such conclusions, then you must of course draw the only correct conclusion from them, namely that security must be gained by liquidating the nuclear weapons against which you are creating this SDI. Why are you taking such a crazy roundabout way to security by creating some kind of shield, weapons that can be simply directly destroyed, to ensure security that way?

So, there was no mood of unfounded expectations; it was an attempt to convince the U.S. President by serious argument of the need once more to give a well considered, responsible answer as to where all this was leading.

[Zubkov] We are coming to the third section of our program, to these questions -- and there are very many of them -- as to who is for and who is against SDI. Well, the position of our Soviet Government and leadership has already been partially expounded in your replies, but before we go on to this section of the program I would like you to see a small film subject, another figurative, visual epigraph to the third section of our program. It is a song, because today after all, people are expressing themselves for and against SDI not only in discussions, at demonstrations or at meetings, but with their songs. One of them will now be heard. It is a song sung by Harry Belafonte. Remember that he heads the organization Cultural and Artistic Figures for Nuclear Disarmament. The song has been going for some time and began as the hymn of the U.S. black civil-rights movement. Then it became the song of the campaign against intervention, against the U.S. war in Indochina, in Vietnam. Now people opposing nuclear disarmament are taking this song into the streets. So, the song. [passage omitted: video showing Greenham Common and then Oktoberfest in Munich, with Harry Belafonte leading the singing of "We Shall Overcome"]

[Zubkov continues] There are very many questions. We thank you for them and will try to answer most of them. Later we will answer you in our other programs. Many of your questions are about the situation not being irreversible. That is the gist of these questions.

I recall a conversation with you and your marvelous quotation from a great scientist about this criminality and uncertainty, and what tremendous danger there is in these experiments.

[Goldanskiy] Yes, I remember. It is about the whole logic of the development of science. The fact is, as a rule, science, fundamental science, and its fundamental technical consequences are unpredictable, and in this context there is a very interesting example. In 1933 Rutherford, a man who can perhaps be called the creator of nuclear physics, said: Anyone who expects to obtain energy from the transformation of the atom is talking nonsense. That was said 6 years before the discovery of fission, 9 years before the first reactor, and 12 years before Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

[Zubkov] That's unpredictability.

[Goldanskiy] That's unpredictability. Now, under conditions when there is industrialization of unconventional science, when studying high energy physics costs an enormous amount of money -- accelerators used in peaceful research and delving into the secrets of matter are specific targets -- it is now proposed to devote a trillion dollars to expand pulse strike destructive effect. Such is the deliberate aim of the research.

I think that it is hard to say now what will be the entire scale and depth of what will come of this. Imagine, in 1933, someone saying: I will develop and invest money in the nucleus and in 10 years I will tell you what has come of it. You can imagine quite well what came of that. Now this is not $2 billion like the Manhattan Project, but a trillion dollars. So this is an economic challenge, too. It is a drive to economically undermine, ruin all rivals by a kind of game of all-or-nothing without a precise understanding of what finally...

[Zubkov, interrupting] And you know countermeasures...

[Goldanskiy, interrupting] They are cheaper...

[Zubkov] Cheaper maybe, but countermeasures bring counter-countermeasures, and counter-countermeasures bring counter-counter-counter-countermeasures, so the question of ruination, it will cost...

[Goldanskiy, interrupting] Instead of disarming, there is this drive to stake more and more, like a gambler, putting more and more and more on the bank.

[Zubkov] Your answers, please.

[Petrosyants] Vitaliy Iosifovich has just snuck in with what I wanted to say. We are talking about SDI. We are going on as if it was a fait accompli, a reality. Nothing of the sort! SDI today is just a project in rough, as we engineers say. SDI faces tremendous scientific and still greater technical difficulties.

That is why it is correctly said that it will require, firstly, much time, many years, and an extraordinarily great sum of money and material resources. Incidentally, it seems to me for some reason that, well, they often say and I know this, I have read this, that President Reagan is devoted to the SDI and that it is his obsession. I think that indeed, the current White House administration daydreams about the laurels President Roosevelt won when he helped implement the creation of an atomic bomb.

They daydream about the laurels of President Truman who dropped, ordered to drop, atomic bombs on Japanese cities during the war. Well, President Reagan's picture is also more or less like this: maybe something will come out of this? Here he is bringing enormous levers into play, enormous resources. This, of course, must be borne in mind and fought. With what can one fight it? It seems to me that there is only one thing: It is beyond doubt, essential that the public opinion in the countries throughout the world should categorically oppose it and that it should demand of the U.S. Administration that it halts nuclear testing. If there are no nuclear explosions, neither will there be nuclear pumping, nor will there be the SDI. This is one of the most radical questions and it is necessary to fight for it with all one's might. If we manage to do this, we will attain what we desire. I have here a number of questions.

[Zubkov] Please, please, go ahead, we are listening to you, yes.

[Petrosyants] Well, I think that these questions are, more or less, concerned with this. Well, one question which, incidentally, crops up again, is about nuclear winter: How long does it last, what influence will it have on man, will man survive it, and so forth.

Well, I am bound to say that if there is, indeed, nuclear war, then you will have a violation of our planet on a global scale, of the atmosphere, troposphere, the earth, and so on. It is something that is incalculable. That is why mankind should remove the question of nuclear war from the agenda. There is nothing that would make it possible to counteract this global destruction during a nuclear war.

The next question is from Vadim Yefimovich Korotkov, war veteran from the city of Moscow. Do the tests carried out in testing ranges -- nuclear test ranges are what is in mind here -- have any influence upon volcanic eruptions or earthquakes? Well, it must be said that nuclear explosions are, properly speaking, tiny earthquakes, incidentally speaking. In what sense are they tiny? What charges must be used? Smaller, or maybe bigger? No cases have so far been found involving nuclear explosions causing a spontaneous, natural earthquake. But if these explosions are carried out in regions of seismic activity, it is very probable that they will have an influence and an earthquake will entail.

[Zubkov] Boris Aleksandrovich, would you like to give a brief list of attitudes toward the SDI, who is for it, who is against it, both in the United States itself and in the Soviet Union?

[Kalyagin] I am afraid that there are very many questions here.

[Zubkov] That's perfectly true, perfectly true.

[Kalyagin] Let me start by giving a short question that perhaps has no direct bearing on the SDI. Svetlana Mikhaylovna Romanova asks why television was not directly present during the talks between both sides in Reykjavik. Well, it is quite clear why -- so as not to be in the way of the participants in the talks conducting their dialogue.

Television was in Reykjavik and it did some filming, but the talks and, in particular, a significant part of the talks were conducted eye-to-eye, between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and President Reagan, with only interpreters present. Everything was done to facilitate the conducting of a dialogue. Well, Valeriy Petrovich Burkovskiy from Moscow asks how many countries support the SDI program. Well, I have to say that an overwhelming majority of countries are against this program and even numerous U.S. partners in the alliances and agreements are also against it.

In particular, I can name countries that have announced their unwillingness to be involved in the SDI on the state level -- for instance Australia, Canada, France, Norway, Denmark, and Greece.

Five, so to speak, closest partners are in support of the SDI program: Great Britain, the FRG, Italy, Israel, and Japan. Moreover, these decisions were also not arrived at immediately. If we take, let us say, a partner such as Great Britain, one of the closest partners -- I would say that its attitude to the Star Wars program does not, to put it mildly, stand out by its consistency. In the first place we remember the statement made by Howe, the foreign secretary, in which the SDI program was criticized. It was said in London that there is opposition there against deployment of arms in space. But Mrs Margaret Thatcher arrived in the United States, held talks with Reagan in Camp David, and naturally pressure was applied on her. She said there that Great Britain supported the SDI and supported the SDI research program, but if the question of deploying an antimissile system in space arises, then the Soviet Union and the United States should sit down at the negotiating table. A kind of proviso was made here, showing that London is, as it were, ultimately against the deployment of antimissile weapons in space.

It continues to be said in Britain that they are in favor of, so to speak, a firm observance of the Soviet-American ABM Treaty of 1972. Well, generally speaking, a consistent implementation of the SDI will lead to this treaty being undermined. That is why there is, of course, and without a doubt, an inconsistency in this position. Well, attempting to justify their policy, the British Conservatives say that if they failed to join in the SDI they would begin to lag behind in modern technology. Prime Minister Thatcher herself even said that, having joined in the SDI, Great Britain has been given an opportunity of exerting influence upon the formation of U.S. policies arising from the SDI agreement. Well, it seems to me that all these arguments are rather illusory. In the first place, we know that the current U.S. Administration pursues its policies without regard to the interests of even its partners, and that it sometimes fails to consult them. At times these policies are pursued in secret from them, as has, for instance, been shown by the Irangate affair. As for the opportunity of joining in the use of the state-of-the-art technology, we have, for the time being, seen the reverse process: On the contrary, it is the United States that is trying to get its hands upon the best minds and achievements in Western Europe and other Western countries, so as to develop the SDI with their aid.

Here Alla Mikhaylovna Rappaport from the second group of those who live in Moscow asks what Japan is counting on, after having joined in the SDI program. After all, the Japanese themselves experienced the effects of atomic bombs. And, after all, nuclear weapons are now much more powerful -- or else did they have in mind something in the way of protection against radiation? No, no such protection has been devised as yet, not in Japan or anywhere else.

It must be said that in Japan, support for the SDI was not a simple matter, either. For a long time the Nakasone government pretended that it was hesitating, that it was unable to arrive at a decision. This is explained rather easily. In the first place, the very constitution of Japan bans the waging of war and the buildup of arms. In the second place, there exist three so-called nuclear-free principles against the import or manufacture of nuclear weapons on the territory of Japan. Finally, there were resolutions of the Japanese parliament concerning the use of space only for peaceful purposes. Well, in the end, the Nakasone government finally discarded this mask of irresoluteness and announced its support for SDI. Moreover, it tries to sell its position also by reference to the fact that the SDI is an American program and that is why the resolutions of Japan's parliament do not affect it. As for the nuclear-free principles, again the nuclear testing is done on the territory of the United States and not on the territory of Japan. That is also why this is neither here nor there, as far as that country is concerned.

What is most important, a treaty on security has been concluded between Japan and the United States. It follows from this treaty that the Japanese should support the United States. Well, this shows once more how dangerous this treaty is.

How many years is the SDI program calculated to take? What is the attitude of Americans themselves to the program? Are they aware of the danger of all this? Well, it is surely rather complicated to say how many years this program is calculated to last. What is known is that in the period of 1983-1986 already $4.2 million have been spent on its implementation. In the 1987-1991 period it is planned to spend a further $3-4 billion. Well, how long the United States intend to continue will, apparently, depend on the results obtained.

(?We proposed to Reagan) that for 10 years, research on the SDI program should be confined to the laboratory and should not be carried out in space. At the same time we made great concessions and great compromises for the sake of getting this agreement. Yet, nevertheless, the United States did not agree. If you will permit me I will give you a very interesting quotation from Edward Markey, chairman of a subcommittee of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, who said that in Reykjavik Reagan was offered the best deal the Russians have ever offered an American President since the time of the Alaska purchase. All the President had to give in return was a promise that the United States will continue to strictly adhere to the 1972 ABM Treaty. But the President refused and was wrong. That is Markey's view.

In this connection, the questioner asks: What is the attitude to the SDI program of the possible Democratic and Republican Party candidates for the U.S. Presidency? The politicians have not yet put forward their nominations; the elections do not take place until 1988, but we can say that there are some figures in the Democratic Party who sharply condemn this program. We have already talked about Edward Kennedy. We can also mention Jesse Jackson, one of the contenders last time for the Democratic Party. Gary Hart has been in Moscow, as you recall, and he was asked a direct question by a television correspondent about his attitude to SDI. I would say that he gave a veiled reply, although there was a report yesterday that he has called for restrictions on the SDI program, so his position as such is not absolutely clear. Perhaps Aleksandr Aleksandrovich can add something.

[Bessmertnykh] Yes, some very curious processes are taking place in the United States, and in Congress in particluar, right now. First of all, Reagan and Weinberger's number one fairytale about an impenetrable shield being created has crumbled, one can say. Out of all the major figures, they are virtually the only two who still try to say something on this topic. The remainder talk about a completely different SDI, about a partial SDI, and so on and so forth. But it must be admitted that the current U.S. President -- and until recently he has been fairly popular -- has nevertheless managed to secure a situation in which the broad public supports this program. We judge this by the so-called public opinion polls that are carried out by sociological institutes of different kinds. However, I must reveal in a couple of words the secret of all this. If someone asked you the following question: "Do you want to support the SDI program which will ensure your complete survival or do you want to fall victim to the ballistic missiles of the Soviet Union?" then of course the answer is clear. Pollsters therefore received replies indicating that between 64 and 67 percent of Americans in general are in favor of SDI. As far as Congress is concerned, there is some stratification taking place. Approximately 200 senators and congressmen come out clearly and definitely in favor of the SDI. These are conservative and right-wing figures from the Republican and Democratic Parties. All the same, there is a wider stratum in Congress that is more cautious: You were quite right there when you were talking about Hart. This is in general characteristic of the liberal section of Congress.

Not many of them speak directly like Ken[illegible]y. Nevertheless, the majority of them believe and say that they are against the SDI but are in favor of carrying out the research part all the same. The whole problem of American liberalism lies in this vagueness.

[Zubkov] Please don't forget the question from Bratislava. We promised to answer it.

[Bessmertnykh] Yes, I'm going over to it right away. While talking about the reactions of those who are in favor and those who are against, we cannot fail to deal with the question asked from Bratislava by Comrade Spanier. What is the attitude of the Third World and the developing countries to all of this? The answer here is a short one: The developing world looks with great fear at what is taking place in this area. In the first place, it is troubled by the prospects of further tension between the Soviet Union and the United States. In the second place, they see that enormous resources are starting to be spent in a nonproductive sphere, and this at a time when it is precisely hope of disarmament which is offering them the chance of seeing the wealthy North giving them the appropriate resources, so to speak, as a result of disarmament taking place. At their international conferences and in bilateral contacts, they say definitely that they are opposed to SDI.

[Zubkov] A letter -- a question -- or rather an assessment, if you like, of our program comes from Valentina Georgiyevna Safran. She has phoned it in and asks why such a small amount of time has been allocated for this interesting program with so many different questions. Well, in the first place, this has been our first experience; thank you for your assessment. We hope that we will have further discussion of the SDI, no doubt on more than one occasion, for this is an important and a crucial problem. But time is already bearing down upon us and if you will permit me we will return to the question -- there are very many of these questions: You know that the bundle...

[Unidentified voice, interrupting] There is another very important question that we haven't dealt with.

[Zubkov] We'll get back to it in a minute. [indistinct interjections by several participants speaking at once] Absolutely, and this is natural, you know, because in the first place people are entering into a discussion with us; like participants in our conversation, they naturally take an interest, and at the same time we have more to say. But nevertheless I repeat that there have been very many questions about what countermeasures our country is taking. Perhaps we are not [word indistinct] our viewers very much. I think that you wanted to sum up these questions. Please go ahead. And then we will certainly deal with [word indistinct]; these are very important questions.

[Petrosyants] In the course of this conversation we have now been talking about the way in which SDI is an enormous piece of work involving science, technology, and cash. It is impossible to carry it out just like that, whether in 1 year, in 2 years, or whatever. In this connection I want to mention the fact that the possibilities that the Soviet Union has for countermeasures, for a counter-SDI, are enormous. Our potential is so powerful that I can illustrate it with just one fact, with just one example. The United States, in developing the atomic bomb, took 2 years and 7 months from the start-up of the first research atomic reactor in Chicago; 2 years and 7 months elapsed before the test of the first atomic bomb was carried out. The Soviet Union began in 1943, during wartime, essentially a time of destruction, the army, the war. We took 2 years and 8 months from the start-up of the first research reactor. I repeat: 2 years and 7 months for the United States, the wealthiest country and one in a state of peace, in the sense that practically speaking it has not endured any war.

[Unidentified participant] Its territory (?remained inviolate).

[Petrosyants] Of course, of course. And how casualties did it suffer? As many as it loses in road accidents and other accidents and railway accidents. That's all. And we took 2 years and 8 months. That's the might of the Soviet Union! If, therefore, we really do set about preparing countermeasures we will do the job and we'll ensure its completion. But, this is something that does not have to be done. We are against this. We believe it to be unnecessary, not needed. What we have to do, therefore, is to apply our entire strength and resources -- and in this sense those of all our allies -- and the whole Third World to bring about an end to nuclear weapons tests. As soon as the testing of nuclear weapons has ended, I repeat, there won't be any X-ray laser, there won't be any nuclear pumping. It is impossible to create the same kind of pumping by other methods and by other means. It can only be done by nuclear arms.

[Bessmertnykh] Some listeners themselves suggest measures to counteract it.

[Zubkov] That's interesting.

[Bessmertnkh] Comrade Gvozdetskiy from Odessa says this: Does the designed trajectory of the SDI cross the space of the USSR? Can our law on the state border be used in order to destroy these elements even before the development [formirovaniye] of the SDI has been finished as elements violating our borders? Unfortunately the state border ends at the atmosphere. Space does not belong to any state, although I have to admit that we have not yet agreed with anyone about where the atmosphere ends and where space begins. What we propose is that this is somewhere higher than 100 to 110 kilometers. We know, therefore, that the designed trajectory of the SDI does of course cross the territory of the Soviet Union as it does that of other states. However, we cannot do anything here before the development [formirovaniye] of the SDI has been finished. Nevertheless, we do have to reach agreement to ensure that it does not become a reality.

[Zubkov] Vitaliy Iosifovich, to prevent this from becoming a reality there is a mass of questions about whether or not it is possible to have cooperation and joint efforts by scientists throughout the whole world to counter the SDI -- the creation, say, of laboratories, I don't know, collective laboratories in oppostion to these efforts.

[Goldanskiy] I think that I've got less than 1 minute left...

[Zubkov, interrupting] Perhaps they won't be too hard on us if you take just a tiny bit more.

[Goldanskiy] All right. We have also had a lot of questions about attitudes of scientists in general to the SDI. I wanted to stress that unlike the population of the United States as a whole, a majority of U.S. scientists are opposed to the SDI. That is the main group. A comparatively small group of apologists for SDI -- sometimes these are the authors of plans, and sometimes motives of ambition can play a part here -- sometimes they are those who feed from the SDI table. There is an interesting third group consisting of those who are engaged in deception, those who pull the wool over the eyes of the Pentagon, making out that they are working for the SDI and they, too, so to speak, try to get some money out of this business.

[Zubkov] Do you have an example of that?

[Goldanskiy] I am not going to give specific examples here but those are the impressions I have without a doubt. As far as the main point is concerned, as a rule, the opponents of the SDI are moved by considerations of principles, while those who support it act from considerations of their own personal interests in one way or another, whether they be financial, ambition, or so on. Particularly important here, moreover, is the opinion of the computer equipment specialists. I'll give you one figure: They compare the SDI program with the task of putting together a library of 5,000 books, each of 300 pages, without a single misprint, and this done without any proofreading in the manufacture of these books. That shows how great is the danger of any mistake here. As far as the international scientific community is concerned, the Pugwash Movement is one example of international opposition to nuclear war and opposition to SDI. Without any doubt there are great opportunities for cooperation, and as we know our country has proposed this, including cooperation in space, cooperation in peaceful thermonuclear uses, in the use of thermonuclear energy for peaceful purposes. If this were done, if we are talking about shortwave lasers and X-ray lasers, for example, then we should be thinking about pumping them not by nuclear explosion but by other means. On this basis, say, we should think of developing molecular holography and learning how to see the molecule in three dimensions, as it looks in reality. One can undoubtedly give many examples in high-energy physics, in astrophysics, and in neutrino-astronomy where international scientific cooperation is perfectly possible in substitution of military goals and in opposition to military goals.

[Zubkov] Well, let us, with this wish, conclude our broadcast. Let us say a big thank you to the television viewers for the numerous questions. It turned out that there were several hundred of them and we will try -- I hope you will not mind -- with the aid of the participants in the broadcast and by ourselves to try and reply to your questions, all of them, both in writing and, possibly, in subsequent broadcasts devoted to this important problem, in the subsequent "Repercussions" broadcasts.

Thank you. Thank you for taking part in the broadcast. All the best.

ISRAELYAN HOPEFUL OF CW AGREEMENT IN 1987

LD181132 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Report by Switzerland correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev]

[Text] In the Palace of Nations in Geneva the latest round of the multilateral talks on banning chemical weapons went on for almost a month within the framework of the disarmament conference. Our correspondent in Switzerland, Vladimir Dmitriyev, reports:

[Dmitriyev] Questions associated with concluding an international convention on banning these weapons and eliminating existing stocks of them were at the center of attention of those participating in the talks. The Soviet Union favors the rapid and complete elimination of chemical weapons and the actual industrial bases for manufacturing them. Indeed, it is thanks to the constructive position of the Soviet side that further progress on a number of clauses in a draft international convention was ensured here. The results of the latest round are the subject of comment by the head of the Soviet delegation, Comrade Israelyan:

[Begin Israelyan recording] The Soviet delegation introduced new proposals concerning a number of key problems in the future convention, in particular on banning the manufacture of chemical weapons in the commercial and civil chemical industry, as well as on one of the most acute questions, that is on carrying out on-site verification [proverki] on demand.

In order to ease the talks the Soviet Union accepted as a basis the proposal of the United Kingdom, which is evidence of our flexibility and our desire to conclude the talks as soon as possible.

On the whole the talks, it seems to me, provide a basis for expressing the hope that if there are no negative circumstances, and if the remaining participants in the talks display the same kind of will and interest in concluding a convention on chemical weapons, then it can actually become a reality in 1987 and an important measure for ridding our planet of weapons of mass destruction, one of which is chemical weaponry. [end recording]

SHISHLIN REVIEWS EVENTS, HAPPENINGS IN 1986

LD211920 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1310 GMT 21 Dec 86

[From the "International Panorama" program, presented by Nikolay Shishlin]

[Text] Hello, comrades. Not many days remain of 1986. Of course we are all preoccupied with today's affairs; but still, in thought, we try to sum up the departing year. And of course we ask the questions: What has the year been like, and what legacy will it pass on to the coming year? Seemingly simple questions, yet not so easy to answer. We have to take into account the sum total of the facts, phenomena and events in which this year -- proclaimed by the United Nations as International Peace Year -- has been so rich.

On this December evening, it may be appropriate to recall how the year began. It began with silence at the Soviet test sites. And as early as 15 January came the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev unveiling the major Soviet proposals for an abolition by stages of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. Then in February, the 27th CPSU Congress elaborated the foundations on which a comprehensive international security system could be built. And, incidentally, the main elements of the Soviet ideas have met with understanding and support at the latest session of the UN General Assembly.

The Soviet Union played an active part last year -- or rather, in the year now ending -- in drawing up proposals for reducing conventional armaments and armed forces in Europe, for instance, in the zone stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals. And though those proposals are dated summer, 1986, and we are now in December, we have yet to receive a clear answer to them from the NATO countries.

The year has, indeed, been rich in Soviet initiatives; and it has been the year of Reykjavik. That must not be forgotten. And it was Reykjavik that revealed the possibility of a breakthrough to historic accords between the Soviet Union and the United States on the problem of our time: The problem of limiting and curtailing the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race. But in those days and hours of October, doubts were already creeping in as to whether the United States was willing to strike a historic compromise. The reason for the doubts was that the United States did not submit any proposals of its own at Reykjavik: All it did was react to the Soviet proposals. And as the days and weeks that followed were to show, those doubts proved well-founded. And it is not just a question of the United States' blind adherence to SDI -- the Strategic Defense Initiative. It is also a matter of such actions as the U.S. withdrawal from SALT II, U.S. actions in regional conflicts, and the latest outbreak of anti-Soviet rhetoric, which remains harmful even though it is something we have had to get used to.

And yet we should not be in a hurry to say that 1986 has been a barren year with regard to the creation of healthier international relations, or from the viewpoint of strengthening the foundations of universal peace.

Here, we should not be hasty. No. It is true, of course, that the world's armaments have not been reduced by even a single item. It is true, too, that the hotbeds of tension on the planet are still at boiling point; civil war rages in Lebanon; the Iran-Iraq war is being stoked by Washington, as has been shown clearly enough by the latest big scandal there, which revealed plainly that the United States is supplying arms both to Tehran and to Baghdad. Unrest continues in Central America and in southern Africa. All that is true. And of course, we must bear in mind that the possibliity of achieving a historic decision to stop nuclear tests was very close -- only half a step away. But the way things are going, it looks as if the United States is, by their actions, cancelling that possibility, too. And this has been said, openly, honestly and in good time, in the Soviet Government statement. Now, a great deal -- a great deal -- will depend on the position of the United States: Whether we shall succeed in making the unilateral Soviet moratorium into a bilateral, Soviet-U.S. moratorium, or whether, in the interests of its own national security, the Soviet Union will have to resume testing.

However, in speaking of these dramatic pictures and dramatic situations of 1986, we must nonetheless see that, of course, all these initiatives, all these actions by the Soviet Union that we have mentioned, have of course augmented the potential for peace, added to the credit balance of peace; and along with the efforts of the other peaceloving states, they do, of course, make up the most important legacy of the old year to the new. And of course, the steps and the actions that have been taken by various political and public circles to make today's world a better world and a calmer world, have not been fruitless and have not been impotent. And perhaps the most important and most valuable thing from this viewpoint is the change in public attitudes that is beginning to take shape under the influence of the actions by the Soviet Union and by the other socialist countries, and by peace-loving social forces. And, you know, it is a very difficult thing to get through to the public consciousness in the capitalist countries, especially in the United States, where a powerful system operates to brainwash public opinion in favor of the tendencies by which the activities of the administration are dominated. Yet in this respect, 1986 has seen some changes -- precious changes.

DELEGATION HEAD KASHLEV SPEAKS AT CSCE MEETING

LD191648 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1545 GMT 19 Dec 86

["Statement by the Head of the Soviet Delegation at the Vienna Meeting" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Vienna, 19 Dec TASS -- The concluding session of the first stage of the Vienna meeting of representatives of the states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe took place here today.

In his statement, the head of the USSR delegation, Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, noted that in the period after the Madrid meeting, as the discussion has shown, two tendencies in the approach of the participating countries to the problems of security in Europe and in the world as a whole were clearly revealed. The Soviet Union and the socialist countries embodied one tendency. Its landmarks were the program put forward in the statement on 15 January of this year on eliminating nuclear and other forms of mass annihilation weapons by the end of the present century; the bold and cardinal proposals by the USSR in Reykjavik; the unilateral cessation of nuclear tests by the Soviet Union (silence has held sway on our test sites for 500 days already); the large-scale proposals by the Warsaw Pact states on reducing armed forces and conventional weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals; and a number of others.

Acting in the spirit of Helsinki, the Soviet Union states its willingness to discuss the issue of nonnuclear status of the Baltic Sea area, dismantled medium-range missile launching facilities on the Kola Peninsula, and a large part of them on the territory of the relevant military districts [okrug].

In the United Nations, socialist countries put forward proposals on the creation of an all-encompassing system of international security. All this is aimed at one objective -- to ensure fundamental change in international affairs, and to achieve radical improvement of the situation in Europe and in the world as a whole.

The second approach found its expression in the U.S. adoption of the "Star Wars" program and drawing other countries into it, breaking off the accords that were outlined in Reykjavik, and fully eliminating its consequences by continuing tests of nuclear weapons, in breaking the SALT II treaty, which curbs the arms race, and in undermining the foundations of the ABM Treaty.

The U.S. policy in the Mediterranean region is seriously undermining the all-European security, too.

The draft of the document on additions to the mandate of the Stockholm conference put forward by the PPR delegation will make possible a transition to practical talks within the framework of the CSCE on cutting armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe. It takes into account the profound interest which the West European countries are showing in reducing military confrontation in Europe. The NATO side has not yet undertaken serious steps in this direction.

International law issues relating to principles and humanitarian cooperation occupied a large and important place in the discussions.

The representatives of the United States -- a country that has carried out flagrant acts of direct aggression against Libya, Grenada, Nicaragua; that has trampled on the principles of the Helsinki Declaration, by which the member-states took on the obligation to be guided by not only relations with one another, but also in relations with other states of the world -- had no scruples about putting on a magistrate's robe and appearing at our meeting in the role of defenders and international law and order.

The discussion of human rights issues at the Vienna meeting, which was diverted from the problems of observation of these rights and was used only for the purposes of confrontation, leaves an oppressive impression. The way proposed by the United States delegation leads to nowhere. Our task is to enable this meeting to mark a step toward the noble goals laid down in the Final Act.

The U.S. delegation tried to continue this same confrontational line during discussion of specific issues of cooperation in humanitarian spheres.

The Soviet delegation hopes that reason, goodwill, and a general commitment to success will predominate, and that after the recess, we will together be able to engage in constructive work, the head of the Soviet delegation declared.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD212112 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 21 Dec 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with political observers Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin and Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh and All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

[Text] [Levin] Hello, dear comrades! We shall begin our program today with the December 18 statement by the Soviet Government on the nuclear test moratorium. I will not go into the history of this question; you are well aware that our country has extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions four times. But we have now reached a new point at which, while the Soviet Union has not carried out any nuclear tests for more than 500 days -- today make 503 days -- the United States has carried out 20 officially announced and 4 unannounced nuclear weapons tests. Although these four tests were not announced, they were however, recorded by the relevant instruments at the disposal of our government, among others, and made public.

In this situation, after a profound and all-round study of the matter, the Soviet leadership came to the conclusion that the following steps must be taken. Let me remind you what they are. First, the Soviet Union is again proposing that full-scale talks be started without delay on the complete banning of nuclear tests. It is ready to hold such talks with any group of participants and at any forum, but naturally with the United States participating. During those talks the questions of monitoring [kontrol], among others, must be solved in such a way as to ensure that an agreement on this is properly observed.

[Bovin] Let me interrupt you here. On this point the U.S. is now maneuvering as follows: Over there they have the problem of the ratification of the 1974 and 1976 treaties. The Americans are therefore suggesting the following to us: Let's get together for the sole purpose of making amendments to those treaties to improve the monitoring, then we will submit them to Congress and ratify them. However -- and now it gets interesting -- if you don't want to have talks about this, they say, we will still submit them to Congress, and we will still ratify them, but with stipulations. In other words, they are taking a deliberate step to let some of the steam, so to speak, out of public opinion. That's simply a footnote to this point.

[Levin] And it's a substantial footnote. The second point in the Soviet statement is that the USSR is ready to continue its moratorium; however, it will resume its nuclear tests after the very first nuclear explosion in the United States next year. Here it's probably appropriate to add that according to THE WASHINGTON POST, the United States is planning to carry out its first test next year on January 29, and overall in the first quarter of the year five nuclear explosions are planned. But here the situation depends wholly and completely on what stance the United States will adopt. It is appropriate to mention that literally on the very same day that the Soviet Union made the statement, 130 U.S. congressmen sent a message to President Reagan pressing him to support the Soviet position regarding the moratorium and stop nuclear tests from continuing.

[Kobysh] Allow me to make a little comment, too, on this point, and then we can go on. You said that everything would depend on the stance that the United States would adopt. Of course, we would like to believe that reason prevails and that some forces...there are various forces at work in the United States: The military industrial complex is far from being the only force; and as the magazine FORTUNE has just reported -- and this is a very interesting piece of information -- the military business world is not predominant, and what is more, they calculate that it is reducing the profits of American capitalism.

[Bovin] Well, you don't need a report from the latest magazine to tell you that!

[Kobysh] That's right, you don't. But the thing is that this is what is reported by an organ of American capitalism, and its conclusion is that the most profitable thing for American corporations would be the elimination of nuclear weapons altogether. That's something very interesting.

[Bovin] Yes, it is.

[Kobysh] However, the decision will, nevertheless, be made by the powers now standing at the helm, and they have already said that regardless of what the Soviet Union says or does, the United States will continue its nuclear tests. That goes to show that we should not hold excessive hopes, although we are counting very much on the fact that serious forces will take a serious attitude to what was said in the Soviet statement.

[Levin] And right here it is appropriate to mention the third point in the Soviet statement, which says that if the United States ends its nuclear tests, the USSR will be ready on any day of any month, on the basis of reciprocity, to halt the implementation of its test program. So this is the situation taking shape. Both the sincerity of the Soviet Union and its flexibility in approaching the problem of ending nuclear tests are confirmed not just by the Soviet Government statement, but also by the stance which was set forth in particular by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev at the Soviet-U.S. summit in Reykjavik. For, if our comrades recall, the point made there was that we were ready to agree to some sort of scheme, some sort of plan, being developed for a certain number of nuclear tests being carried out, but on condition that talks be started without delay on signing an agreement for the complete banning of such tests.

[Bovin] We had quite a flexible position which contained the provision for a whole number of different versions so as to make it easier for the United States to make some sort of sensible decision. But all the same, they kept to this hard-headedness of theirs, saying no and that's that...

[Levin] And it wasn't at Reykjavik that this hard-headedness started. Almost a year ago, on January 15, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev made a statement setting forth a stage-by-stage plan for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons over the next 15 years, and a great deal of attention was paid in that statement in particular to the problem of ending nuclear explosions. Also in that statement, almost a year ago it was stressed that it was essential to resume as soon as possible the trilateral talks between the USSR, the United States, and Britain on the complete and universal banning of nuclear weapons tests. That could have been done immediately -- that very month. That was what Mikhail Sergeyevich said last January 15. They are avoiding talks, and they are avoiding embarking on the path of completely banning nuclear tests.

[Bovin] It is what could be called the potential of lost opportunities. And after all, just look at how many lost opportunities there have been to change the course of history, to move away from the arms race -- first one opportunity, then two, then three...

[Kobysh] Yes, the United States now, the administration, the ruling class, are bearing the enormous political costs of flatly and blindly refusing to join our moratorium. It is evoking a response throughout the world, even in the United States. And why? It is because SDI and basically all these tests are oriented toward experiments and practical work connected with the nuclear triggering of lasers, X-ray lasers. That is the aim of the tests that are now being carried out.

[Levin] And speaking of lost opportunities, it is not only the Soviet Union which advocates the ending of nuclear tests. The Delhi Six are also actively campaigning for this, and the subject was very vividly reflected in the Delhi declaration signed during the visit to India by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Finally there was a very recent event -- the accession by the Soviet Union to the Rarotonga Treaty, the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific. This treaty was approved on 6 August 1985, the same day, incidentally, that the Soviet moratorium started, but also a day that has meaning for all of us for another reason. August 6 was the day of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima; a reminder, so to speak, of the catastrophic consequences that using nuclear weapons can and has already led to. And so the Soviet Union was the first among the nuclear powers to acceed to this treaty, and it pledged to respect the status of the nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific. But what they are saying in the West -- in particular the French newspaper LE MONDE, although its attitude is understandable because it is in that very area, the Muroroa Atoll, that the French carry out their nuclear tests -- what they are saying is that it is not in the interests of the West. Here there arises what I would call a very delicate question: What exactly is in the interests of the West? Nuclear explosions being carried out all over the world? Strong-arm pressure on all countries?

[Kobysh] Viktor Nikolayevich, when you were recounting the forces advocating the ending of tests, perhaps it would be worth mentioning the very important, the extraordinarily important position of China.

[Levin] Of course.

[Kobysh] This is of enormous significance, because China is a great power -- it is a nuclear power -- and the very fact that given a definite accord, it agrees to both the ending of tests and to the elimination of nuclear weapons altogether, qualitatively changes the situation. France and Britain will then also be in the same position. And there is one further question, another aspect: According to the calculations of scientists, including U.S. scientists, by the end of this century, about 10, and some even say 11 countries, will possess nuclear weapons...

[Levin, interrupting] Some of them, it seems, already possess them.

[Kobysh] Some, yes...

[Bovin] First of all, don't frighten people...

[Kobysh] I am not frightening people; I am just saying that the problem is acquiring a very acute, a very urgent nature. And great dialectics are at work here, because the present U.S. Administration opposes tests and yet it has so far been unwilling to reach agreement on the prohibition and on the elimination of nuclear weapons. At the same time, it is in complete solidarity with us on the point that the proliferation of nuclear weapons is a threat for the whole of humanity and that it is a terrible thing. Our positions on this completely coincide. And at all the talks on this issue we have identical documents.

[Bovin] And it is exactly this which is the contradiction in the U.S. position...

[Kobysh] Of course...

[Bovin] ...Because it is impossible on the one hand to oppose proliferation, and on the other to pursue the arms race, which promotes the proliferation of nuclear weapons. And of course this duality of the U.S. position, it...

[Kobysh] It does not add up.

[Bovin] Yes, that is it. Yes, it shows.

[Levin] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, you have used the term, the duality of the U.S. position. But surely this duality -- though perhaps this would be the mildest description of the case in question -- is very characteristic of that position which the U.S. Administration adopted in the Iran-Iraq conflict. I have in mind not only Irangate but everything connected with this.

[Bovin] By the way, you used the word Irangate. Now on this, I would like to say the following: I understand that as a journalistic metaphor we freely use Irangate -- all that is clear -- but, we ourselves should understand that the analogy with Watergate is really a very nominal one. After all, what was Watergate? Nixon used power for his own self-seeking interests...

[Levin] Political interests...

[Bovin] Yes, well, for his own personal interests. He abused his power. Reagan has abused his power not for his own interests but in the interests of the United States, naturally, as he understands them.

That is one aspect which distinguishes Watergate from that which we call Irangate. And the second is that if Nixon had succeeded in proving that he did not know about the thing called Watergate, he would of course have been saved. But now, if Reagan did not know what was going on under his own nose, this, by contrast, is an indictment of Reagan.

Therefore, I think that these analogies may sometimes have an expressive ring to them, but all the same let us distinguish these different things.

[Kobysh] Let us make the distinction, but here I am not completely in agreement with you in this respect. I think that Watergate, in essence, was a kindergarten by comparison with Irangate.

[Bovin] Well, all the more so, then. Of course this is a great hypocrisy.

[Kobysh] But in principle, after all, this hypocrisy is not linked only with Irangate or Watergate. For example, the Nicaraguan National Assembly, following the intercession of the president of Nicaragua, has just demonstrated great magnanimity and freed a U.S. military advisor who had been directly controlling actions by the contras and had been taken prisoner. He had been given a 30-year sentence, yet he was released. And he has already flown off with some senator who was in Managua. But here is a report which I will read out for you about another American by the name of Hall...

[Bovin] Yes, again he was recently caught...

[Kobysh] Hall was involved in organizing a plot aimed at murdering, in 1985, the U.S. ambassador in Costa Rica -- I repeat, the U.S. ambassador in Costa Rica.

Of course the CIA was behind this, and perhaps the Pentagon, subsequently accusing the Sandinist government of this crime.... Now how can there be talk about morality here, about Watergate, about Irangate, when they are ready to murder their own ambassador for the sake of later achieving some kind of political aims or gains?

[Levin] Well, so far as Irangate is concerned, of course, there are very many aspects here, but a great impression was made on me by the exposure of the fact that it turns out that the United States supplied weapons to Iran, and secret data on the movements of Iranian troops to Iraq — the other combatant in this conflict!

[Bovin] Well, you know, this does not surprise me in the slightest. Because from the U.S. viewpoint there is no gain in Iran winning. And there is no gain in Iraq winning, so that is how you have the position arising. It is amoral, call it what you like, but it stems from purely pragmatic interests so to speak. And here, this does not surprise me.

[Kobysh] This is geopolitics.

[Bovin] It is, yes; it is pure realpolitik, as the Germans used to say. Yes, it has nothing to do with morality.

[Kobysh] It is cynical ... and what do ordinary Americans feel? Over the past few years they have been conditioned against Iran; they have been told that these are evil people. That these are some kind of semihumans. And it turns out that talks have been held with them, that they were supplied with money and weapons.

[Bovin] And here, up bobs another more general problem -- that is the competence, for example, of Reagan and his team. After all, it is no coincidence that the U.S. press is saying that competence is the Achille's heel of the Presidency. That is, there are no people in his entourage, at the center, no real analysts who are able to clearly see what isgoing on. After all, Reagan has clearly gained a distorted picture of what is going on in Tehran. He was unable to correctly understand the correlation of forces and simply used the Israeli pattern as a guide, instead of analyzing the situation and finding out what is going on. And so, you see, this Irangate, as we call it, is now developing into criticism of Reagan's foreign policy as a whole and of the methods of conducting policy. Now that is interesting. It is not a single occurrence. It is not just some kind of individual item. It is a crisis in Reagan's foreign policy, and it is now absolutely apparent.

However, Reagan is an awfully lucky person. [chuckles] He has always had good luck...

[Kobysh] Apart from what has been going on recently...

[Bovin] Yes, there you are, there you are...and he has always somehow been able to extricate himself out of everything which happens. What about the Marines they killed in Beirut? He just brushed himself off and went on, and nothing came of it. He went to Bitburg, to that cemetery in the FRG and what a row there was over it! But the same thing happened -- he brushed himself off and went on. But now it is not passing over. He is not getting over this. I have even noticed how limply he is bearing himself. You know, that self-assurance which has been characteristic of him at press conferences -- it's gone. He's a sort of hesitant and troubled person, as if he doesn't know what to say. And this, is my mind is of substantial importance. It has to be compared with the results of the last elections. After all, what did the elections to Congress show? That public opinion is moving toward the right of center [phrase as heard] on the political spectrum. And it is against such an internal backdrop that this particular scandal has flared up.

This means that the criticism of Reagan is not merely temporary and related to the events in question. It means that despite all his popularity in the country, some kind of turn in public opinion is taking place. And it seems to me that this is very important, and it is very necessary to follow this because here perhaps some kind of prospects of a change in U.S. policy are opening up. And when I hear sometimes that what is happening now with Reagan is that the rightwingers, ultra-right, and the military-industrial complex want to punish him for Reykjavik, I cannot take that attitude seriously. Because the same military-industrial complex and those same ultra-rightwingers understand full well Reagan's true position, and they not only do not want to ruin him now; on the contrary, they are seeking to save him from this criticism.

[Kobysh] They cannot permit a second Watergate and a second impeachment.

[Bovin] Yes, yes, yes, to save him, to drag him out of this.

[Kobysh] I want to stress another two issues in this connection, because this goes beyond the bounds of Irangate and Reagan as such. It seems to me that what has now happened is in fact logical. I am a little surprised, having been involved with the United States for quite a long time, and following what goes on there in a fairly attentive way -- I am surprised that all this did not happen sooner. Because, on the whole, as Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich said, policy has been developed by unqualified people. And there are more than enough qualified people in the United States. But the California Mafia clawed its way to power. The advertising business, if you like, which manufactured popularity for Reagan clawed its way to power. They are brilliantly capable of producing a television broadcast, but they are unable to make a profound international analysis.

[Kobysh] And what has happened now is logical, and it is not the first time it has happened, though before it was simply glossed over. There will be more of this in the future. This is the first point. And the second, If you don't mind, I will sympathize a little with Reagan, however strange it may sound...

[Bovin] So why not?

[Levin] We are sharing the sympathy, you know. [giggles]

[Kobysh] The United States is a cruel country, cruel in the foundations it is built on, in its morals, its ethics. When a man is all right, when he is popular, when he is strong, he gains even more in strength and everybody shouts hurrah to him. But as soon as something slightly goes wrong with him, something goes out of order, everybody abandons him and he starts to sink. We remember how it was with Nixon, and we can see it happening now to Reagan. I have learned of a horrible thing and even talking about it makes one sick, yet I am thinking of Reagan now as just a human being. He is 76, and it is clear that whatever health he enjoys, he has problems. He needs an operation, the same kind of operation that was performed on him 20 years ago. And here is what has been reported in connection with this: On 4 January he is to be taken to hospital for some days. In connection with this, the CBS television company reports the President's health problems and his stay in a hospital at the peak of the scandal with the arms supplies to Iran and the channelling of the money to the Nicaraguan contras, all this -- and what is particularly interesting, this is what the President's closest supporters think -- will have an adverse effect on Reagan's political image. In other words, you must not fall sick; you are not allowed to be weak, and it is forbidden to go into hospital. What kind of society is that? What people are they? How can one do things like that?

[Bovin] You are right, of course, and, indeed, the President may have a wart or a pimple or something else but it is all under a magnifying glass -- by the press and television -- so there is really no place one could hide from this. Now you see the cruelty of this political intrigue.

[Levin] Having finished with this subject, I would like to dwell on yet another event of the last week which has evoked great interest. I mean the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. The congress was very interesting in many respects. It has unmasked shortcomings very boldly and faced up to the truth. As the head of the CPSU delegation to the Vietnamese Communist Congress, Comrade Ligachev, pointed out, this was a lesson of truth. The Vietnamese comrades very sharply disclosed the problems that they are encountering; they were saying that they had failed to provide full employment and that it has not been possible to stabilize the standard of living of working people. Yet they were pointing to ways toward solving those problems. This is a very important point. And, on the whole, one can safely say that the Sixth CPV Congress was in the mainstream of those congresses of fraternal parties that took place this year, starting with the 27th CPSU Congress -- the spirit of principled criticism and creative spirit was reigning there.

[Kobysh] The whole world has paid perhaps particular attention to two points in the speech by Comrade Ligachev. The first point: We will be strengthening along all lines our cooperation, first of all, economic cooperation which Vietnam needs; and, second, we will adhere to the position of a deep respect for Vietnam's independence and for its pursuing its own policy.

[Bovin] Well, our time is nearly up. As you see, there are many events occupying many different planes, but we are trying to discuss the main things, among which is the congress in Hanoi and various other problems; yet there is another problem worth mentioning, too. This is the Contadora Group, the latest meeting of which took place in Latin America. I think that was significant, too, comrades.

[Kobysh] It was very significant. The meeting of the foreign ministers of the member countries of the Contadora Group took place in Rio de Janeiro and....

[Bovin, interrupting] I think it was the first time that they met, so to speak....

[Kobysh, interrupting] It was for the first time that they met at such a high level....

[Bovin, interrupting] And in such a big country.

[Kobysh] In such a big country, and overall in such a substantial group. Both the situation in Central America and a number of issues concerning Latin America in general, including Latin American integration, were examined at that meeting. This is what I think is the most interesting: that the mounting interference of the United States in the Central American crisis and the growing military and financial aid to the Nicaraguan contras from Washington is causing a deep concern in all the participants in the conference. This was stated by none other than Brazilian Foreign Minister Sodre at the news conference immediately after the meeting ended.

[Bovin] I recall that Nixon once said that Latin America would go whichever way Brazil would go. Well, maybe it is not quite exactly true, so to speak, but there is some sense in this.

And right now Brazil is taking Latin America somewhat away from the United States, so to speak.

[Kobysh] Sodre said it straight: We think that the United States must immediately stop supporting the anti-Sandinist elements because it leads to the lengthening of the conflict and hampers the establishment of a stable peace in the region. You know, Brazil's voice in this case is very important and maybe in the context of everything we have been discussing -- Irangate, and....

[Levin, interrupting] The U.S. attitude to the moratorium....

[Kobysh, interrupting] And the U.S. attitude to the moratorium, and the attitude and the aid from the CIA and the Pentagon to the contras, has shown that there are very deep disagreements within the administration itself. And a recent report says U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has officially forbidden all American ambassadors to bypass him or to maintain private links with the President's national security advisor -- it is Carlucci now -- except in those cases when such a clearly defined order is given by the President himself. This report is of no small interest.

[Bovin] Amusing.

[Kobysh] Amusing, indeed. In a telegram sent by Secretary of State Shultz to all American ambassadors abroad, it is said -- this is written in THE NEW YORK TIMES, and this is a serious newspaper, you know -- that links of this kind with Carlucci, without previously advising the secretary of state or without Reagan's personal instructions, will be regarded as a violation of the rules governing activities of ambassadors. In other words, the CIA, the Pentagon....

[Bovin, interrupting] Yes, Shultz does not want to be bypassed; he wants to govern his department himself.

[Kobysh, continuing] ...they will have to act in somewhat more complicated conditions now. If one keeps in mind that at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow now there is a dilemma over who should be finally sent back considering the strict quota, the Americans themselves say that the distibution is as follows: Half are diplomats and the other half are intelligence officers from the CIA and the Pentagon, and the ambassador and State Department are inclined to send some back so that service staff can be brought over.

[Bovin] So they are substituting cooks for intelligence officers!

[Kobysh] Yes, cooks! The CIA does not want it, but, it seems, the apportionment of forces is such at the moment that the decision is not the CIA's to make. This is an interesting feature of the current situation in the United States.

[Levin] And, to my way of thinking, a feature that gives certain grounds for optimism. Yet, as the subject is a delicate one, we will put a full stop here and will see what happens next! Thank you, dear comrades; all the best to you.

PEACE GROUPS SEND LETTER TO REAGAN

LD230923 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS -- The participants in a plenary meeting of the Soviet Peace Committee and the board of the Soviet Peace Fund, which took place in Moscow today, appealed to the U.S. President "to display goodwill and political responsibility." Speaking on behalf of millions of Soviet peace campaigners, they demanded in a letter to Ronald Reagan an end to nuclear testing. A delegation chosen by the plenary meeting, led by writer Anatoliy Ananiyev, a deputy chairman of the Peace Committee, called at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and handed the letter to an Embassy official.

Just a few days separate us from December 31, when the Soviet unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions runs out, the letter says. You know perfectly well that this moratorium, announced by the USSR on August 6, 1985, has been extended four times. The Soviet leadership did so fulfilling the will of the Soviet people and meeting the numerous requests from the world's peaceloving public, including the Americans.

All this time we, like millions of people all over the world, have been hoping that your adminstration will give a positive response to this important Soviet initiative and renounce nuclear testing. However, these hopes have not yet come true.

The participants in the plenary meeting recall that the Soviet Government suggested in its statement of December 18 immediate full-scale talks on a total nuclear test ban and expressed its readiness to continue to respect its moratorium till the first U.S. nuclear explosion next year.

The Soviet peace campaigners urge the U.S. President: Use the chance which still is open and do at long last what the peoples of all the countries and continents, including the Americans, are demanding so strongly and unanimously -- stop nuclear weapons test.

RUMORS OF FURTHER NUCLEAR TEST 'PROVOCATIVE'

LD230024 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video talk by political observer Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Hello, comrades! At present there is a particularly deep division between those in America who are in favor of the Republican administration immediately joining the Soviet moratorium, while it is not yet too late, and those who insist in every possible way that nuclear tests at the Nevada test ground continue. While the first point of view is expressed by a considerable majority of the American public, including influencial circles in the Congress, there are also -- although in a minority, but obviously having a decisive influence in the present adminstration -- which insist that nuclear tests continue. These are, above all, U.S. military-industrial corporations which hold the main levers of power in Reagan's Washington. Such a situation will, as far as can be judged at present, lead to Washington definitely missing the invaluable opportunity offered by the Soviet moratorium.

It is not coincidental that in reply to the Soviet Government warning that it cannot threaten the security of its country and that it will be forced to announce the end of the moratorium after the next new U.S. test, provocative rumors leaked from high Washington offices that the new test will be carried out next month. So have all our efforts -- and let us say it directly, sacrifices -- been in vain? Can such a question arise! Far from it. I will not speak about that which has been said many times -- the enormous moral effect of our moratorium -- which in essence has buried the hostile myth of a Soviet military threat, but I will recall something else, the influence of the constructive peace-loving policy of Moscow on the political climate in the world, including that in the United States.

The present -- the biggest in the last 10 years -- internal political scandal in Washington, known as "Irangate," has assumed its scale and depth not lastly because it also exposed the uncontrolled -- not only operating behind the back of the electorate but also the Congress and a greater part of the government -- group of representatives from circles closest to the President. This group of people appointed arbitrarily by the President, (?calling) itself the National Security Council, has been steering the U.S. political course in recent years not only contrary to the interests of the majority of the American people, but also a considerable part of business circles, exclusively in the name of profits of the most aggressive part of the monopolies -- military-industrial complex. These monopolies have been setting the tune of the Washington's policy in recent years. The scandal, which has exposed gross violence in the activities of various business circles and U.S. Government bodies, is fraught with far-reaching consequences. Public circles and influential business groups now demand the liquidation of the dictatorship of the Californian military-industrial mafia. The rejection of the moratorium on nuclear weapons tests will put before the present Washington leadership new difficult political tasks which will not be as easily brushed aside as it perhaps seems to some today.

PENTAGON TO EXPLOIT SPACE STATION FOR SDI

LD210317 Moscow TASS in English 2217 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 20 TASS -- The Pentagon has made a decision in accordance with which the project of the construction of a U.S. orbital scientific space station will from now on be subjugated to aims and goals of the "Star Wars" program. THE WASHINGTON POST reports this with a reference to informed representatives of the Department of Defense.

This decision means that the orbital station being developed now will actually not be used for peaceful exploration of outer space. This decision also indicates that the United States unilaterally broke its obligations to a number of allied countries earlier invited to take part in the project. The talks on cooperation in the sphere of the construction and uses of the station had been conducted among the United States, the European Space Agency, Japan and Canada.

On the insistence of the Department of Defense these consultations had been put off "indefinitely." The newspaper writes that the U.S. military circles do not want even the United States' closest allies to get an access to the latest technology developed in the framework of the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

New York December 20 TASS -- THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR learned that the Strategic Defense Initiative organization had turned over to the Energy Applications and Systems Corporation 90 thousand dollars to develop an anti-missile space gun. The design envisages the use of the energy of nuclear explosion to speed up the flight of shells in outer space. The gun is planned to be deployed on combat orbital stations being created under the "Star Wars" program.

The newspaper writes that the space services corporation simultaneously embarks on the development of a spy radar space system which, according to the designs of the Pentagon strategists, should enhance the United States potentials in collecting information on the location of the land-based Soviet ballistic nuclear missiles. It is hoped in Washington that such information would help implement the intentions of U. S. militarists to deal a first nuclear strike.

The adventuristic character of the "Star Wars" program causes the growing concern in international circles of scientists. "It is a widely held view in the scientific community that countermeasures will be easier to do than developing the defense," Kurt Gottfried, a Cornell University physicist, writes in THE NEW YORK TIMES.

London December 20 TASS -- Reagan's "Strategic Defense Initiative" pursues offensive, not defensive, aims and leads to a considerable escalation of the arms race. Prominent British specialist in electronic equipment Richard Annals writes this in the book titled "Star Wars: A Question of Initiative".

The author stresses SDI is based on the idea that the United States will simultaneously ensure its security and get an opportunity to attack enemy by means of contemporary technology. The scientist is of the opinion that the implementation of the SDI program leads to the breach of the ABM Treaty, undermines the entire structure of international agreements in the sphere of arms control.

PENTAGON SAID PURSUING CBW RESEARCH IN LAHORE

LD141310 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English 1400 GMT 13 Dec 86

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department this year allocated $42 million on research and development for various types of bacteriological weaponry. The corporation Mark Collett is to carry out research and development into a deadly virus of the rare and quick-acting Rift Valley fever. The Pentagon's secret bacteriological center in Fort Detrick is particularly notorious, whose laboratories are responsible for the leakage of the virus causing the incurable disease AIDS, with this giving rise to a sharp outbreak of the disease among the Americans, and it was observed, among residents in other countries who live close to the Pentagon bases there.

The U.S. centers who specialize in developing bacteriological weaponry are spread though the world. One of these is sited in the Pakistani city of Lahore where, under a veil of combatting malaria, American experts on assignments from the CIA and the Pentagon conduct research on developing new types of bacteriological weaponry, including those causing grave mental disorders. Local residents meanwhile are being used as guinea pigs by researchers at the Lahore center, with over 500 residents of Lahore who suffer from yellow fever, jaundice and mental disorders falling victim to criminal experiments.

The Indian weekly BLITZ reports since 1980 Lahore has become the center for breeding particularly dangerous species of mosquitoes to be used against the population in Afghanistan. Attempts at using these to cause an outbreak of encephalitis among Afghan and Pakistani nomadic tribes have been made public. The outbreak of a hitherto unknown epidemic was registered over a year ago in the Indian State Rajasthan. The Indian bacteriologists arrived at the conclusion that virus-infected mosquitoes were the specific carriers of the infection. Experts believe these insects had been prepared at the bacteriological center in Lahore.

The Pentagon continues research on developing new types of bacteriological weaponry despite the fact that the existing stockpiles are ample enough to kill humanity dozens of times over. U.S. military cynically describes the bacteriological weaponry as the weaponry of the future and believes it to be among the most cost-paying since, in their estimate, its production cost in quantities sufficient to kill one individual is 30-40 times less than that of same amount of other weapons.

U.S. NAVY TO BUILD FACILITY ON ALEUTIAN ISLAND

LD220741 Moscow TASS in English 0654 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] San Francisco December 22 TASS -- The U.S. Navy has announced Amchitka, one of the islands of the Aleutian archipelago, to be a restricted zone in connection with the construction there of a top secret military facility. Fishing vessels, which usually found shelter in the bay of the island in stormy weather, and Aleutians, who regularly came there to worship at the tombs of the ancestors, are now prohibited to visit the island. Also barred from the island will be nature lovers coming to the national preserve in Amchitka. The UPI agency said that according to a naval project, it is planned to install radars of the latest type on the island.

BRIEFS

SABIN ELECTED TO ACADEMY -- Moscow December 11 TASS -- Well-known U.S. scientist Albert Sabin was elected a foreign member of the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences. This was announced at a session of the academy's general assembly today. The honorary title is one more proof of Soviet scientists' respect for the virologist of world renown who developed a poliomyelitic vaccine. He is an honorary member of the All-Union Scientific Society of Microbiologists, Epidemiologists and Parasitologists named after Iliya Mechnikov. Recently, ahead of his 80th birthday, Albert Sabin was awarded with the Soviet People's Friendship Order. His contacts with colleagues from the USSR have been developed through cooperation of many years. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 2210 GMT 11 Dec 86 LD]

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN SHANGHAI, HEFEI NOTED

Call For 'Democracy'

LD222213 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] The CHINA DAILY newspaper reports that a representative of the PRC State Education Commission has announced that students from some higher educational institutions in Hefei and Shanghai held demonstrations recently. The demonstrators put forward demands in pamphlets and slogans calling for an improvement in the life of the student population, including teaching and service in student dining halls. The XINHUA NEWS AGENCY reports in a bulletin from Shanghai that since 19 December thousands of students from higher educational institutions have held rallies and demonstrations in the city center, bearing placards with the slogan: We Want Democracy. According to the agency report, the students' representatives were received by Jiang Zemin, mayor of Shanghai, who exhorted them to return to their institutes to continue normal studies.

No Punishment for Students

OW221059 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0400 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] According to a foreign news agency's report, China's university students held the second mass demonstration in Shanghai on Saturday. Thirty thousand people took to the streets in this largest industrial center of China. They called for democratic reform in China. The demonstration was peacefully staged and well organized.

On 19 December 10,000 people staged the first demonstration in Shanghai. Some demonstrators waited in front of the Shanghai Municipal Government building throughout the night of 19-20 December.

The XINHUA NEWS AGENCY transmitted a statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of Education. He said: The Chinese Government supports democracy. The dmonstrators will not be punished because they have taken action within the scope of the law.

Clash With Police Reported

OW231205 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0400 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] The Shanghai television station reported on student demonstrations in the municipality for the first time on 22 December. The student demonstrators demanded democratic reforms in China. Tens of thousands of students took part in the demonstrations.

The Shanghai television station pointed out: It is understandable that the overwhelming majority of students wishes for democratization at an early date. Regrettably, some students have misunderstood the current domestic reforms.

The Shanghai student demonstrations lasted 3 days. The Shanghai press has reported that students clashed with police during the demonstrations. Student demonstrations also took place in other Chinese cities this month.

VOSS INTERVIEWED ON JAPAN ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE

PM221357 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 5

["IZVESTIYA Interview" with A.E. Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, by A. Shalnev: "A.E. Voss: We Have Begun To Understand Each Other Better" -- first two paragraphs are IZVESTIYA introduction; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] The general opinion was that the conference had been successful and had made it possible not only to gain a better understanding of each other's viewpoint but also to identify similar positins and determine new ways to ensure the further rapprochement of views on the questions under discussion.

But the central issues at the conference -- the Fifth Soviet and Japanese Public "Roundtable" Conference -- were those of war and peace. And although the subject of this forum, held recently in Tokyo, was formulated as "The Role of the USSR and Japanese Public Ensuring Peace and Security in the Asia-Pacific Region," the discussion was about the fate of the planet as a whole. The Soviet delegation was headed by A.E. Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Today's IZVESTIYA interview is with him.

[Shalnev] Avgust Eduardovich, this was the fifth such forum. How was it distinguished from the previous ones?

[Voss] It was distinguished by the broad range of people represented. On the Japanese side, five large organizations were the initiators and enlisted approximately 400 people to take part in the meeting; including a large group of parliamentary deputies not only from opposition parties but also from the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, representatives of scientific, business, and religious circles, education and press workers, and people from the worlds of art and sport. Thirty different organizations were represented on our side, including organizations from Leningrad, Kiev, the Baltic republics, Siberia, and the Far East. The level at which we were received was high -- we had meetings with the prime minister, the foreign minister, the chairman of both chambers of parliament, and the leaders of the main parties.

[Shalnev] Was this in addition to the meetings actually held as part of the conference?

[Voss] Yes. In other words, we had the opportunity to expound in detail our viewpoint on the most topical problems of the international situation. We were particularly persistent in stressing the point that the present alarming situation in the world requires increased effective efforts and collective actions by all countries and peoples -- including those in the Asia-Pacific region -- aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons, preventing the militarization of space, and ending nuclear tests.

The conversations and discussions both at the conference itself and behind the scenes were frank -- mutual understanding is impossible without frankness -- and we plainly said that the Soviet public is really very concerned at official Tokyo's position on SDI. Participation in implementing the "Star Wars" program, we stressed, could, in our opinion, lead to destabilization in the strategic military sphere on a global level and in the Asia-Pacific region in particular, and could also give rise to unsubstantiated but dangerous calculations among those who favor solving problems by force.

[Shalnev] What did the Japanese side have to say on this score?

[Voss] Many said that the "Star Wars" program has aggravated the situation in the world and has become a factor of tension. At the same time, the idea was heard in several speeches that SDI is useful because it may be a spur to the development of science and technology. We did not keep count, of course, of the number of times this was said, but one cannot fail to notice that the unanimously adopted conference communique notes the need to "mobilize international public opinion for the sake of ending the nuclear arms race and using space exclusively for peaceful purposes."

[Shalnev] The communique highly appraises the "possibility of reaching a principled accord on nuclear disarmament issues that emerged during the talks in Reykjavik."

[Voss] This was a key aspect of the discussion. The overwhelming majority of speakers stressed that the USSR not only showed initiative in organizing the summit in the Icelandic capital, but also proved by its specific proposals that it sincerely desires peace and is ready to compromise for the sake of achieving accords on the main problem -- the problem of removing the threat of nuclear war.

At the same time, ideas were put forward which seemed to mimic those which official Washington uses in setting out its own "vision" of the results of the Reykjavik meeting.

[Shalnev] Let us go back to the basic theme of the Tokyo conference -- peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region.

[Voss] Speeches by Japanese participants in the conference confirmed that the speech made by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Vladivostok aroused vast interest in the Land of the Rising Sun. Many Japanese delegates spoke with great sympathy and profound satisfaction of the proposals contained in this speech, which were dictated by concern for peace and security in the region. These attitudes were also reflected in the final communique.

The constructive nature of the Delhi declaration recently signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi as an important and specific manifestation of a new type of thinking conducive to the search for ways of resolving conflicts in this region was also stressed.

[Shalnev] And how did the discussion of issues relating to bilateral relations go?

[Voss] I would like to remind you that the conference was convened in the year of the 30th anniversary of the restoration of Soviet-Japanese diplomatic relations. The objective situation of our countries is such as to require intensified cooperation on a healthy basis, in a calm atmosphere unburdened by the problems of the past. This has begun. The sides agreed that an important task is to continue political dialogue and to continue talks, primarily on issues on which accord can be reached. There was a lively exchange of opinions on the problems of developing trade and economic ties. The proposals contained in M.S. Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech were supported as opening a new page in this sphere.

[Shalnev] What is your general appraisal?

[Voss] The forum in Tokyo was, of course, an important event. It was constructive and, we hope, productive. [paragraph continues]

The criterion of productivity, in our opinion, is the level of activity by representatives of the two countries' publics in resolving the problems facing both the USSR, Japan, and the world as a whole. What is more, we hope that many of the specific proposals made at the conference -- on the development of bilateral cooperation in such spheres as culture, trade, and education, for example -- will be realized, and that we will be able to sum up the initial results at the next "roundtable" conference, planned for 1988 in the Soviet Union.

TRADE, ECONOMIC CONFERENCE HELD IN JAPAN

LD190716 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The first Soviet-Japanese trade and economic conference has taken place in Japan in the Kansai area.

The conference took place in Osaka, the second most important industrial and cultural center in the country. In March this year, a Soviet-Japanese Trade Federation was created in the Kansai area, which unites eight prefectures in western Japan. The conference participants discussed the state of and prospects for development of Soviet-Japanese trade and economic relations. It was noted with satisfaction that according to the results of the first 9 months of the current year, Japan has once again become one of the three main foreign trade partners of the USSR among the developed capitalist states. Nevertheless, the general opinion was that the volume of cooperation is still far from reaching the two countries' potentials.

In the final document which was adopted, both sides expressed their readiness to exert efforts to establish new forms of cooperation, such as economic coproduction and the setting up of joint enterprises. [video shows Japanese city, conference taking place]

DEPUTY PREMIER KAMENTSEV MEETS DPRK OFFICIAL

PM221411 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 18 December V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Chu Kil-pon, chairman of the DPRK Chemical and Light Industry Committee, who is in Moscow in connection with the conclusion of an intergovernmental agreement on USSR-DPRK cooperation in the production of light industry goods in 1987-1990 and through the year 2000.

An exchange of opinions on questions concerning the further development of Soviet-Korean economic cooperation took place during the conversation, which was held in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

MOSCOW NEWS CONFERENCE HELD ON DRA SITUATION

PM231259 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Second Edition p 5

["Meeting With Foreign Journalists" -- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA headline]

[Text] An information meeting between representatives of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Association of Soviet Lawyers, and foreign journalists has been held in the press center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was devoted to a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

Answering the numerous questions from foreign correspondents, the Soviet participants in the meeting showed the consistent, constructive nature of the course of the Soviet Union and the DRA Government toward the fastest possible achievement of a fair political settlement around Afghanistan, on the basis of an end to, and guaranteed non-resumption of, interference in the internal affairs of the Republic. It was emphasized that the achievement of a political settlement would accelerate the withdrawal of Soviet armed subunits from Afghanistan.

An important practical step of goodwill has been taken by the Soviet side: the withdrawal of six regiments from the limited contingent of the Soviet Armed Forces in Afghanistan. Unfortunately, for the time being there have been no positive actions in response to this step by the Soviet Union and the DRA. The scale of interference in the internal affairs of the sovereign republic is increasing all the time -- the volume of financial, military, and other assistance to the Afghan counterrevolution is growing.

It was emphasized at the meeting that it is incumbent upon all sides concerned with the problem of settling the situation around Afghanistan to respond to the Soviet Union's constructive step.

More on News Conference

LD191949 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 19 TASS -- A news conference on matters of political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan was held today at the press centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry at the request of foreign correspondents. High officials of the USSR Foreign Ministry and of the USSR Defence Ministry took part in it.

"The time has come when the problem of political settlement around Afghanistan requires undelayed solution," said high official of the USSR Foreign Ministry Nikolay Kinayev. "Afghanistan's stand is constructive and realistic. It is now up to Pakistan and the USA. The sooner they show a realistic approach, the sooner the armed aggression against an independent non-aligned state, Afghanistan, is stopped, the sooner Soviet forces will be withdrawn from the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Such is our principled stand."

The process settlement of the situation around Afghanistan requires mutual effort and obligations. The Soviet Union declared more than once that it is striving for an early withdrawal of its troops. But this withdrawal can be effected only on conditions that an armed intervention against Afghanistan is stopped, that firm international guarantees of its non-resumption in future are given.

It was pointed out at the meeting that as soon as some progress toward the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan is started, certain Western circles exert efforts to bring to nought the progress that has started and, in the final analysis, to frustrate the process of settlement.

Spokesman for the USSR Defence Ministry Lieutenant-General Mikhail Sostsov pointed out in this connection that the Soviet Union had recalled from Afghanistan six regiments of the limited contingent of Soviet forces. This was a major political step, a signal toward an early political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. But after that step of goodwill, the United States considerably stepped up aid to Afghan counter-revolutionaries, thus obstructing achievement of arrangements.

Vice-President of the Association of Soviet Lawyers Igor Blishchenko called the attention to the criminal nature of Afghan counter-revolutionaries' actions. Their bands make raids on civilian facilites, destroy schools, hospitals, mosques, capture hostages. He stressed that both counter-revolutionaries and those states that are accomplices in these crimes bear the responsibility under international law, specifically on the strength of such documents as the sentence passed at the Nuremberg trial and the 1949 Geneva Conventions on the protection of population in wartime and the 1977 protocols supplementing them.

It was emphasised at the meeting that constructive steps toward an early political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan by the other side are required.

AIR DEFENSE CHIEF KOLDUNOV COMPLETES INDIA VISIT

PM230917 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit Concluded"]

[Text] Delhi, 20 Dec -- The official visit to India by Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, has reached its conclusion. He has been here at the invitation of chief Marshal of Aviation L. Lafontaine, chief of staff of the Indian Air Force. During his visit Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov was received by Arjun Singh, Indian minister of state for defense, had a meeting with Admiral (R.Kh. Takhiliani), chairman of the committee of chiefs of staff of the Armed Forces, and other Indian military commanders, and visited a number of the republic's armed forces installations. Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov left for home today.

Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, who has been in the Republic of India on an official visit, returned to Moscow on 20 December.

Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov was met at the airport by Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, and other generals and officers.

Those present at the airport included (Ch.V. Ranganatkhan), minister plenipotentiary at the Indian Embassy in Moscow.

MORE ON DOBRYNIN TALK WITH BANGLADESH CP LEADER

OM221615 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Appraisal"]

[Text] On 19 December a meeting was held between A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and M. Farhad, secretary general of the Bangladesh Communist Party Central Committee.

In a comradely conversation; M. Farhad spoke about the activities of the Bangladesh Communist Party in the new political situation in Bangladesh, after the recent lifting of martial law and the reinstatement of the republic's constitution and about the Bangladesh Communists' preparations for their party's fourth congress.

A.F. Dobrynin dwelt in detail on the activities of the CPSU and the Soviet people in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. He explained the essence of the Soviet peace initiatives aimed, among other things, at strengthening peace and security in Asia-Pacific region and gave an assessment of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Reykjavik and subsequent events in the world arena.

The guest was briefed on the main results of the CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's friendly visit to India.

M. Farhad expressed a high opinion of the Soviet Union's consistent policy in the struggle against imperialism and the forces of international reaction and for eliminating the threat of nuclear war and preserving peace on earth.

The sides said they were in favor of the further development and consolidation of the fraternal ties between the CPSU and the Bangladesh Communist Party and the friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Bangladesh peoples.

SOKOLOV GREETS SRV MINISTER ON ARMY ANNIVERSARY

PM221555 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 86 Second Edition p 1

[Message from Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov to Army General Van Tien Dung, SRV national defense minister]

[Text] To Comrade Army General Van Tien Dung, minister of national defense of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf, I send you and all Vietnamese servicemen combat greetings and cordial congratulations on the 42d anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army.

Born in the years of struggle against the colonizers, the Army, together with its people, has traveled a long and heroic path, won a difficult struggle, defended the freedom and independence of Vietnam, and now reliably defends the country against aggressive encroachments from outside.

I wish you and all Vietnamese People's Army personnel success in resolving the tasks set by the Sixth Communist Party of Vietnam Congress to further improve your homeland's defense capability and ensure its successful progress along the path of buildng socialism.

May the inviolable friendship and all-around cooperation between our fraternal peoples and armies strengthen and develop.

With communist greetings.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR defense minister

VANUATU APPROVES DRAFT FISHING AGREEMENT

LD192307 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Canberra December 19 TASS -- The Government of Vanuatu approved a draft agreement on fishing with the USSR, the prime minister of Vanuatu Walter Lini reported today.

A statement for the press published by the prime minister's office rebuts interference by the United St&tes and Australia in the affairs of Vanuatu. They try to force that country into abandoning cooperation with the USSR. The Government of Vanuatu opposes all forms of interference on the part of any government in the country's internal affairs, the statement points out. Lini indicated that if it was not easy to scare him with a "Soviet threat".

The newspaper "FIJI SUN" described as "hypocritical" the attempts by such countries as Australia to set Vanuatu against cooperation with the USSR. Those countries should realize, says the editorial article, that island states in the southern part of the Pacific Ocean are capable of making their own decisions.

LAOS COOPERATION COMMISSION MEETING ENDS

LD211328 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Text] In Vientiane, the eighth session of the intergovernmental commission on economic and scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Laos has come to an end. The results of cooperation over the past year were summarized at it, and measures were mapped out to enhance its efficiency. Our correspondent in Laos, Vladislav Gaydamovich reports:

[Gaydamovich] The economic and technical assistanct to Laos will continue to be directed primarily toward developing such key industries as agriculture and forestry, exploiting natural resources, transportation and communications, and on the training of national specialists. The sides stressed that Soviet-Laotian cooperation should continue to go along the road of further improving economic relations on a long-term and mutually beneficial basis. It was noted that the meeting between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, which took place on 15 October in Moscow, had great significance for the all-round further development of links between our countries.

The members of the Soviet delegation acquainted themselves with the work of one of the leading industrial enterprises in the republic, The No 1 State Construction Organization, paid visits to the construction sites of a technical college, a hospital in Vientiane, and other major installations of Soviet-Laotian cooperation.

PHILIPPINES PRESIDENT SIGNS MASS MEDIA DECREE

LD192143 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Manila December 19 TASS -- President Corazon Aquino of the Republic of the Philippines has signed a decree on the centralization and regulation of the country's state-run mass media.

The measures set out in the decree envisage broadening the functions and powers of the press service of the Presidential Palace, and directly subordinating the National and Foreign Information Bureau, the Philippines News Agency, and the government-controlled TV and radio stations to it.

Teodoro Benigno, press secretary of the president, has said that the decree is aimed at combatting disinformation which is being spread in the Philippines by some circles and which distorts the policy being pursued by the government.

HUNGARIAN PREMIER LAZAR BEGINS 'WORKING VISIT'

Greeted by Ryzhkov, Antonov

LD221601 Moscow TASS in English 1552 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 22 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic Gyorgy Lazar today arrived in Moscow for a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the Vnukovo Airport he was met by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Antonov, other officials.

The airport was decked out with state flags of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Soviet Union.

Presents Award to Sokolov

LD221921 Moscow TASS in English 1906 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 22 TASS -- On behalf of the Presidium of the Hungarian People's Republic Gyorgy Lazar, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and chairman of Hungary's Council of Ministers, awarded today the order of the Banner of the Hungarian People's Republic with rubies to Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of defence, at the Hungarian Embassy in Moscow. He was awarded the order for his great service in deepening friendship between the Soviet and Hungarian peoples and strengthening cooperation between the Armed Forces of the USSR and Hungary in the campaign for peace and socialism.

Ryzhkov, Lazar Open Talks

LD230902 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] The Hungarian prime minister, Gyorgy Lazar, who arrived in Moscow on Monday for a working visit, has begun talks with his Soviet counterpart Nikolay Ryzhkov. Under discussion is a wide range of issues, first of all the further development of relations between the two socialist nations.

Earlier Gyorgy Lazar emphasized in a press interview that Hungary attached particular importance to its planned and mutually beneficial economic, scientific, and technical cooperation with the Soviet Union. This cooperation guarantees the supplies of energy and raw materials for his country and makes it possible to develop its industries in every way possible.

FURTHER COVERAGE OF SOLOMENTSEV VISIT TO ALMA-ATA

Addresses Komsomol Meeting

LD221816 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 22 Dec 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Solomentsev, who is in Alma-Ata, and Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, had a meeting today with the Komsomol aktiv at the republic's Komsomol Central Committee.

Detachments of working and student youth are working at many key construction projects scheduled for commissioning. Komsomol combine operators have collected over 5 million metric tons of grain for the country this year alone. They have built thousands of houses, nurseries and schools in the 1st year of the 5-year plan on the republic's sovkhozes and kolkhozes. Serik Abdrakhmanov, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Komsomol Central Committee related all of this at the meeting today with Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev.

He noted, however, that there are also serious errors in the work of the Komsomol organizations. The Komsomol committees have become detached from the masses and are only weakly involved in the internationalist education of young people and students. It was said at the meeting that a bureaucratic style of work and formalism in the slection of Komsomol cadres have led to the neglect of educational work among students and in collectives of working youth, and that there have also been major omissions in work with creative youth. This style was subjected to sharp but justified criticism, from which the most serious conclusions were to be drawn. The party's chief assistant, the Komsomol, should in all matters be not a formal but a truly energetic leader among working and student youth, Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev said. [video shows exterior of Komsomol building, then interior shot of meeting in progress, with Solomentsev and Kolbin among those present]

[Begin Solomentsev recording; video shows Solomentsev addressing meeting] We have to spend more time at the center of young peoples' activities. To close down the committee some day, and then to go off to the work place is also, I would say, the kind of work that is done in fits and starts, and is not a system. All right, some people may do things like that, but it is important that every Komsomol activist should be obliged systematically to visit the youth in the countryside, especially where there is a concentration of young people. They simply have to set aside time for this. There has to be a system. Your life should be spent at the center of young peoples' activities. Be the party's closest assistants, its closest assistants. The party has always counted and relied on young people, and is counting on them now, too. [end recording]

Holds Talks With Kolbin

LD221600 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1509 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] A conversation between Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Party Control Committee under the CPSU Central Committee, Gennadiy Vasilyevich Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, and the Alma-Ata Komsomol aktiv took place in the Kazakhstan Komsomol Central Committee today.

They discussed the specific participation of members of the Komsomol in implementing the decisions of the 27th congress of the party, restructuring the style and work methods of Komsomol organizations, and the enhancement of their role in the communist upbinging of young people and the development of their initiative and independent actions [initsiativy i samodeyatelnosti].

In the course of the conversation it was stressed that the energy and enthusiasm of the youth could be channeled into honest and fruitful labor and full development of everybody's potential in the interests of the restructuring and acceleration. One cannot tolerate shortcomings in the activity of the Komsomol organizations as far as professional and ideological and moral education is concerned. One has to resolutely eliminate from one's practical activity any formalistic approach, paper shuffling, or superficial and light-minded approach to solving problems. It is necessary to conduct all the work entirely in labor collectives and educational establishments directly, to find forms of real [zhivogo] communication, and to enhance political and public activity of young men and women.

Comrade Razumov, first deputy head of the Organizational Party Work Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and Comrade Mendybayev, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Oblast party Committee, took part in the meeting together with Comrades Solomentsev and Kolbin.

OFFICIAL ON EXTENT OF ALMA-ATA RIOTS

PM221424 Paris LE MONDE in French 21-22 Dec 86 p 4

["D.Dh." dispatch: "Several People Killed in Alma-Ata Riots"]

[Text] Moscow -- a Soviet official revealed to a Western diplomat on Friday, 19 December, that several people were killed and many injured in the Alma-Ata riots. The nationalist students who took to the streets of the Kazakhstan capital on Wednesday morning (and not in the evening as TASS reported) numbered several thousand, he explained. Many people were arrested. According to him, the agitation was continuing Friday, but on a limited scale; only a few groups were still demonstrating.

This official also said that the demonstrators were all young Kazakhs brandishing banners written in their language protesting the appointment of Mr Kolbin, a Russian, to replace a Kazakh as leader of their republic.

The television news on the evening of 19 December showed Mr Kolbin visiting a factory in Alma-Ata accompanied by Mr Solomentsev, a Politburo member from Moscow; this visit apparently took place on 18 December.

The riots themselves were not mentioned on this occasion, despite the fact that they were the subject of a television report on the evening of 18 December that was without precedent in the Soviet Union. Only the militia and the "volunteer militia" (druzhina) and not the army were used to suppress the riot.

TRUD NOTES CRITICISMS AT KAZAKH ECONOMIC AKTIV

PM221253 Moscow TRUD in Russian 20 Dec 86 p 2

[TASS report: "Special Attention to State Acceptance"]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 19 Dec -- During the 5-year plan all Kazakh SSR industry must go over to manufacturing only high-quality output. This was noted at a republic meeting of the party and economic aktiv held today in Kazakhstan's capital. The tasks of the republic's party, soviet, and economic organs in radically improving the quality of goods and introducing state acceptance of output at associations and industrial enterprises were discussed.

At present, the speakers stressed only 109 industrial enterprises produce goods with the state Seal of Quality. Many plants and factories allowing themselves to fall short of state standards and technical conditions, so that gradings are reduced. Unmarketable goods worth hundreds of millions of rubles have piled up.

State acceptance is intended to raise output quality in the shortest possible time. Its preparation requires from every party committee and labor collective thorough, comprehensive analysis, the elaboration of precise measures, and the timely solution of problems which arise. However, as the facts show, the majority of leaders and party organizations have approached this matter of great state importance in a stereotyped fashion, with old methods, and without proper responsibility.

Revealing the aforementioned and other shortcomings and omissions, the meeting participants pointed to concrete ways of eliminating them. In particular, it was especially said that the switch to state acceptance must be most closely linked with the ideological and organizational activity of party organizations and with greater exactingness toward cadres.

DOLGIKH, SHCHERBINA ATTEND POWER WORKERS MEETING

LD222241 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] Workers in one of the key sectors of the national economy, power engineering, are marking their professional holiday. The labor rhythm of the whole of the country's economy depends to a significant degree on them. A ceremonial meeting devoted to Power Workers Day took place in Moscow today. On the presidium were: Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee; directors of a number of ministries; exemplary workers from the power engineering sector; scientists; and representatives of the capital's public. A report was delivered by Mayorets, USSR minister of power and electrification. The workers of this sector have given an assurance that they will apply all of their experience and knowledge for successful completion of the production program for this year ending and a good working start to the new year.

YELTSIN INTERVIEWED AT MOSCOW KOMSOMOL MEETING

LD180002 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1630 GMT on 17 December carries a 30-minute video report entitled "Frank Discussion," in which Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, chief of Moscow Gorkom, takes part; an unidentified correspondent presents the program.

As the video shows the meeting in progress, a Komsomol member says: "The Komsomol has very many rights which are enshrined both in the constitution and in the law, in the main legal provisions of the Soviet state. But we are definitely not using these rights. We have forgotten them. The administration has become used to the Komsomol demanding nothing of it. And the administration simply really does not want to share with us its rights because they have forgotten that we have them." A female Komsomol member adds: "The majority of young people here at ZIL [I.A. Likhachev Moscow Automobile Plant] are inactive, passive," and goes on to say that were the Komsomol secretary to enter the workshop or go near the assembly conveyer, these passive youths would not recognize him. The Komsomol bureau never visits the workshops, and if they do it is rarely, together with guests. You don't even know how people are working in the foundry shops. Look in what conditions the foundry workers are working. The shop is 50 years old. You understand, the equipment is worn out. And here, in this question, Boris Nikolayevich, I ask you, you visited us when the delegation came around, you saw the conditions in which the foundry workers are working. I ask you simply to assist in getting our labor alleviated, and then young people will come and join us." [applause]

[Correspondent] "How is restructuring proceeding in the Komsomol and what is standing in its way?"

[Yeltsin] "If you glance through the MOSKOVSKIY AVTOZAVODETS issue of say, 26 November, then apparently everything is sort of going splendidly. For each item, all is well, restructuring is proceeding all the time. If one looks at things, say, on the basis of a fairly interesting article in the 25 November issue of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA -- you've probably read it -- then there is already some doubt creeping in.

"If you judge from say, my meeting in the hostels yesterday -- it lasted 3 hours -- I was going around the hostels and meeting with the boys, and they don't see and don't understand the difference in general between the period in which the congress took place and the present day. In their view: zero, no movement at all! Perhaps there is some initiative among the workers. But to get any further, there is such a stratum there, so to speak: the foreman, the head of the shop, and so forth. Forget the whole thing! Virtually no account is taken either of the Komsomol, of young people, or of its initiative. And there is no real support.

"Judging from today's start of the conference -- well, there was a conventional report plus a greater share of criticism. But, nevertheless a standard one. But if one judges from the start of the speeches, it is already interesting. I believe that the Komsomol has become so overgrown by bureaucratic moss, a cobweb, trite phrases, instructions, paper, and so forth. Can you imagine how many initiatives there were at ZIL alone? They announced so many shock-work weeks that there aren't more in the year as a whole anywhere else. Or, say, in the city, that is to say altogether -- yesterday we tried to count but we lost count: We counted 1,000 initiatives, for the Komsomol only. That is where the real, genuine red tape is, in Komsomol work. The boys are waiting for real work. The boys are waiting for independence. They want to be believed. They want to be given a good, great cause, a major, substantial cause.

"In production they will then contribute their word and deed, and [word indistinct] in everyday life, and they will establish orders in the hostels. They sit night after night in the hostels doing nothing. They don't do gymnastics, they don't go in for sports. But, on the other hand, they need to fill in the sociopolitical passport. Such paper. But nobody understands anything. An initiative prior to the 47th conference. Again some 46 shock-work shifts have to be worked. Again: yesterday shock-work and after the conference, on Monday, already it was good-bye to everything. The shock-work ends, ordinary work starts. And this initiative, (?virtually) empty, which is not based on anything, also does not make the boys enthusiastic. It does not excite them, you understand, it does not appeal to them. It is not seeking, to arouse in him the desire, tell him simply to rush into the breach, to work properly.

"What is the Komsomol short of today? There are not enough revolutioanry actions. At present there is a situation in our country where the plans and decisions themselves, so to speak, of the congress require revolutionary actions. It is a matter of revolutionary transformations, a matter of the renewal of society. There are no revolutionary actions in the Komsomol, none in the city and none in ZIL."

[Reporter] "The young people, the Komsomol, in my view are currently experiencing an acute lack of confidence."

[Yeltsin] "Well, it was written 6,000 years ago in cuneiform, you know, that our young people are bad, they do not respect their elders, there is no honoring of rank, so to speak, there are no authorities. Socrates said the very same thing, and all through these 6,000 years and to this day we're still saying that our young people are not what we were. Those were young people at that time. So from generation to generation everything goes on just the same, so that young people today are obligatorily worse, supposedly, than they were yesterday. I don't think so. Nevertheless, it is we who are, probably to a greater degree, if not primarily, guilty. It is we who have driven the Komsomol into a bureaucratic impasse, it is we who drove them into instructions and paperwork, it is we who created this situation. Following the congress we now have a real opportunity of revolutionizing this process, from the point of view of the party leadership of the Komsomol, too. And the most important thing is to give them the opportunity of revealing themselves, to let them be creative and independent, not to drive them.

"Who's driving whom, you ask? 'You Menshevik', the secretary of the party committee says, 'we'll deal with you in a minute' -- that's the point. Everything in that sentence comes from the point of view of the party leadership of the Komsomol, the whole style. If we don't break this, our party style -- and this is the work of the town party committee in the given instance, and the raykom, and the party committee of let's say, ZIL -- then they are not going to get on their feet by themselves, so to speak. We're stifling them too much with all this, we're stifling them, quite simply, you understand, from start to finish with formal instructions."

[Reporter] "Boris Nikolayevich, much is now being said about informal associations of young people and informal leaders. What is your view?"

[Yeltsin] "All in all, we have taken upon ourselves in this process too much of a prohibitory function. You understand, it is not just a function, but a tactic and a policy that are prohibitory. They are banned from dancing in a certain way -- they've gone underground. A kind of music is banned -- they've gone off to apartments where they're out of sight.

"Some kind of association is banned -- they've crept off, so to speak, somewhere where people dance on their heads but not in full view, where you would have to show class and you really have to be able to dance well. So really, on the contrary, you have to get the kids out of there and give them the opportunity to show what they can do, allow them to start up informal associations; but, of course, not on the basis of a lack of ideological outlook, but from an ideological and educational viewpoint, in accordance with the decisions of the congress, and yet to find creative freedom, an unfettering, their own opinion and principles."

[Reporter] "We frequently come up against cases of Komsomol workers being afraid of making television appearances, and this applies to quite different sections of the Komsomol. And throughout the entire period that 'World and Youth' has been aired, the platform afforded by Central Television has only been used twice, probably."

[Yeltsin] "Well it is to be regretted, it is to be regretted that a situation has come about in which people are afraid; they seem to think that if you haven't cleared the few words you are going to say with a higher organization then you can't have your say. But the atmosphere has charged now. I was told yesterday -- this is why I made the proposal today -- I was told yesterday how the speakers were prepared. I hope Nikolay [Yeltsin points to young man nearby] won't be offended when I describe it: The secretary of the party committee of the factory arrives; he sits the girl down next to him and says, let's do some work on your speech. And what is the upshot: How many of her ideas, the ideas of the Komsomol girl, remain in the speech, and how many of the party committee secretary's? Well, probably 99 percent belong to the secretary of the party committee, and just a word or two -- hello and good-bye -- belong to her.

"The suggestion is this, therefore: Let the young people speak up boldly, frankly and openly, and indeed say in real terms how the Komsomol organization has been restructured, what has been done by it this year, what has been done during the period under review, and how its work can be assessed in general. But then again, not according to yesterday's criteria, but according to the criteria of today. This is what is important."

[Reporter] "The '12th floor' program intends now to tell about the Muscovite youth movement for the preservation of the historic monuments and architecture of the capital. Do you know anything about this movement?"

[Yeltsin] "I know that this movement is starting and I would very much welcome it. Everyone should be involved in Moscow affairs. We cannot manage here without youth. We must exclusively use the efforts of all people to restore the center of Moscow. A decision about it has now been taken and the concept of the development of Moscow until the year 2000 was discussed at the Politburo and the decision on the center of Moscow has been made by the gorkom bureau and the gorispolkom. And the Komsomol can help a great deal by participating in the restoration.

"The Volga Auto workers needed 4 days, whereas Moscow demands 6 days. So many problems have accumulated: social and other problems, problems to do with improvement. We must tidy things up in Moscow with our own hands, with the assistance of Muscovites, with the hands of Muscovites. Perhaps we need 6, or all right, just 4 days. How many days, in fact, did the ZIL Komsomol member take? Only 1 day this year. Such is the discrepancy between words and deeds. This is his report and this is in reality the state of affairs. The most terrible thing is this apathy.

"We must now stir things up, so that every one becomes concerned, absolutely everyone is concerned and committed and cares about the cause, about his works, the workshop he works in, Moscow and the affairs of the country."

[Reporters] "Search, Creativity and Inititative: These are the main points of the works conference. More delgates spoke than usual. How boldly and openly they spoke; how many concrete suggestions and additons they introduced into the draft decision. There were no apathetic people here. By the way, Aleksandr Malakhov, the new secretary of the Komsomol committee, was elected in an open ballot. One can believe that it is impossible to work badly after such a discussion."

SAKHAROV, BONNER RETURN TO MOSCOW 23 DEC

HK230512 Hong Kong AFP in English 0456 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow, Dec 23 (AFP) -- Dissident nuclear physicist Andrey Sakharov returned to Moscow Tuesday morning after seven years of internal exile in Gorkiy, an industrial city closed to foreigners, 400 kms (250 miles) east of here.

Mr. Sakharov, a Nobel Peace Prize-winner known as the "father of the Soviet H-bomb", stepped of a train at Moscow's Yaroslav Station shortly after 7 a.m., accompanied by his wife Yelena Bonner, who in 1984 was sentenced to five years' internal exile -- although she was allowed to go to the United States for heart surgery.

The leading dissident was last week personally authorized by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to return to the capital, apparently unconditionally.

It is not clear whether he will resume his work at the Soviet Academy of Science.

He said Sunday that he would continue to fight for human rights in the Soviet Union and would demand the release of Jewish "refuseniks" who are denied permission to leave the country to rejoin their families.

After spending 40 minutes fighting his way along the platform through a pack of Western journalists to get to the car where friends were waiting to take him to this apartment, Mr Sakharov broke silence to confirm that he would keep fighting for human rights ad said he would be taking part in seminar at the Academy of Science.

His wife left the train and got to the car before him because, he said, she was ill and could not stand up for nay length of time.

Sakharov Discusses Return

AU230950 Paris AFP in English 0956 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Sylvie Kauffmann report]

[Excerpts] Dec 23 (AFP) -- Dissident nuclear physicist Andrey Sakharov arrived in Moscow early Tuesday accompanied by his wife Yelena Bonner after seven years of internal exile and pledged to continue fighting for liberty and human rights "with all my energy."

Visibly tired, 65-year-old Mr. Sakharov told the crowd of waiting journalists at the station that he felt a mixture of "happiness, emotion and worry," and added:

"The fate of my friends in prisons and camps is tragic. I will write and speak out so long as I have energy. I'm worried about their fate. I hope that my release will contribute to solving the problem of prisoners of conscience."

"I hope I'll be totally free," said the Nobel Peace Prize-winner known as "father" of the Soviet atomic bomb, adding that "there will be plenty of difficulties because liberty is a responsibility."

The leading dissident was last Tuesday personally authorized by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to return to the capital, apparently unconditionally.

Mr. Sakharov said in answer to a question that he would be ready to emigrate, but that leaving was "impossible for the time being because of the (secret) work I did." He added that "if circumstances changed, I would be ready to leave."

He said he was unable to "get rid for one moment of the consternation" caused by the death "in martyrdom" of fellow dissident Anatoliy Marchenko "in his struggle against injustice." Mr. Marchenko died in Chistopol prison on December 8 at the age of 48.

"We were not able to save Marchenko," he said, "but we must save the others."

Mr. Sakharov confirmed that he would resume work at the Physics Institute of the Academy of Science here and "start the ordinary life of an ordinary researcher." He said he was very tired and in bad health.

He spoke after spending 40 minutes elbowing his way from the platform of Moscow's Yaroslav railway station through a pack of Western journalists to get to the car waiting to take him to his apartment. [passage omitted]

Mr. Sakharov said his telephone conversation last Tuesday with Mr. Gorbachev had been "unexpected and brief. He told me: 'You can return to Moscow and so can Bonner'. I told him she was my wife."

Mr. Sakharov said he was ready to meet Mr. Gorbachev, but that the meeting did not depend on him. "I don't refuse any meeting."

Mr. Sakharov said the right to move freely, including the right to leave the Soviet Union, had to be obtained, and that he expected that "everything would change" concerning human rights in the Soviet Union.

He said he could not explain why he was released at this time. "It had to happen sooner or later. A lot of attention was concentrated on me. That could not last forever."

Mr. Sakharov thanked the statesmen, colleagues, his children and his wife who fought for him during his seven-year exile.

He said the Afghan question was "the most painful aspect of our foreign policy" and called for "a decisive action" to end the conflict.

Mr. Sakharov said that "isolation was the worst" aspect of his exile in Gorkiy. "I survived thanks to my wife. She cured me after my forced hospitalization. She is not well herself, she has a bad heart and bad legs, she can't walk."

When they arrived at their apartment, Mrs. Bonner closed the door and said the couple would meet no one Tuesday. "I don't want him to be ill here," she said.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION RETURNS FROM U.S.

LD202026 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 20 TASS -- Parliamentarians can do a good deal to create an atmosphere of confidence and mutual understanding among nations, Viktor Afanasyev, editor-in-chief of the newspaper "PRAVDA", told TASS. He headed the group of deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet which wound up to its trip to the United States and Canada today. The delegation also involved deputies Irina Blokhina and Kirill Lavrov.

In departing to the United States, we set ourselves the goal to keep the dialogue on the parliamentary level going, to get to know better each other's positions on a number of urgent foreign policy and domestic problems, and exchange information, the head of the delegation said. I hold that this goal has been achieved.

Interest in the United States in our country, in the changes under way in it is immense. In their turn, the Soviet people are eager to know how Americans live. Television debates between Soviet and U.S. parliamentarians can meet this interest to some extent. One of our discussions with U.S. congressmen focused precisely on holding such meetings of representatives of the two countries' legislative bodies via communications satellites.

We agreed to hold several telecommunications session under the general motto "New Mentality in the Space Age". The first broadcast scheduled for next March will be called "Let Us Get Acquainted". It will tell television viewers in the general form about who we are, what problems we have, about our customs, the essence of our political system and constitution.

It is planned to discuss in the future such issues as ecology and human rights, the problems of international security and regional conflicts. In short, everything which our people show interest in. We in the USSR attach great significance to this new form of parliamentary ties, which I am sure will help us to understand each other better, Afanasyev said.

The trip to Canada was also very interesting. The meetings, receptions and talks were candid and open. They confirmed that the two countries hold identical stands on major issues of our time, reflected the mutual aspiration to develop our friendly relations, forge contacts among MPS. This was demonstrated by the discussion of the issue of setting up a Soviet-Canadian section in the USSR parliamentary group and a Canadian-Soviet association on ties with the USSR Supreme Soviet in Canada's Parliament.

'ADMIRAL NAKHIMOV' INQUIRY SHOWS SAFETY BREACHES

LD171433 Moscow TASS in English 1316 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- Breaches of navigational safety regulations by both skippers were established by the investigation, now closed, of the circumstances of the sinking of the Admiral Nakhimov passenger ship, which collided with the Petr Vasev dry cargo carrier on the night of August 31.

The last documents have been filed into the 60 volumes of the investigation, the newspaper MOSCOW NEWS reports today.

Commenting on the circumstances of the sinking of the Admiral Nakhimov, Boris Uvarov, senior investigator for special cases of the Procurator's Office of the Russian Federation said that the course and reverse records of the Petr Vasev had made it possible to reproduce the commands given from the bridge of the dry cargo carrier just before the disaster.

At the start of the investigation, he continued, it seemed that the navigators of the passenger ship had been the victims, all the more so since one of them, Second Mate Chudnovskiy, who had been on duty, had perished. Yet an expert study done by navigators and naval specialists established that both skippers had breached safety regulations.

Naturally, it is the court that will apportion the guilt. Yet the very fact that, in addition to other breaches, Admiral Nakhimov skipper Markov, having climbed the bridge, failed to give the alarm -- and he only needed to push a button -- is hardly excusable. The crew proved absolutely unmanageable as a result and the passengers were caught unawares.

Authorities agree, the investigator concluded, that no contemporary ship could have stood up to such a blow. As for the Admiral Nakhimov, its body was remarkably strong. Over decades of operation, the thickness of its sides, made from top-grade steel and copper, had decreased by a mere 1.5 mm. The design, however, was far from perfect. The admiral Nakhimov had only one compartment and was easy to sink. Moreover, it was virtually the largest passenger vessel, capable of accommodating 1,100.

Bravery Awards for Rescuers

PM230903 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 December 1986 First Edition carries on page 3 two USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees, signed by Chairman Gromyko and SEcretary Menteshashvili and dated 10 December 1986, conferring bravery awards. The first decree confers on naval personnel five Orders of the Red Star -- two posthumously -- one Ushakov Medal, and one Combat Service Medal; the second decree confers on three members of the KGB the Order of the Red Star.

There is also a 600-word article entitled "The Courage of the Rescuers" by own correspondent Captain 3d Rank V. Pasyakin carried under the decrees. The article describes briefly the operation to rescue the passengers on the "Admiral Nakhimov," shipwrecked 31 August 1986, involving the above award-winners. It stresses the great speed with which naval border troops responded: "Hundreds of people," it says, "owe their lives to the border troops' speed" -- and the courage shown by naval personnel.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

FARMS CONCERNED ABOUT FROST DAMAGE TO WINTER CROPS

PM221539 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 2

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": "Beneath Frosty Skies"]

[Excerpts] The 210 million metric tons of grain produced this year will have to be increased by more than 10 percent next year. This is a major task. This is why readers are now ringing the newspaper and asking: How has the recent sharp drop in temperature affected crops? Before it happened we had had quite a mild fall and there were no really heavy snowfalls. This is why people are alarmed. Especially alarmed for the state of winter crops. They are safe as long as they are covered with at least 2 cm of snow.

Specialists with the USSR State Agroindustrial Committee have given us the following statistics. The southernmost edge of the snow cover follows a line through Kishinev, Kirovograd, Poltava, Voronezh, Volgograd, Guryev, and Nukus. It is up to 10 cm deep. Winter crops did not appear to be in any critical condition as of 15 December.

There is a fair amount of snow in the Kirov, Omsk, and Novosibirsk Oblast and Altay Kray regions.

Almost nowhere this year has there been any danger at winter crop tillering node depth. In the last 2 days, however, some danger has arisen in the Moscow region, in some rayons of the Latvian SSR, and in some other areas where the land is exposed.

The temperature has now risen slightly, but this does not mean that everything is all right. Rayon agroindustrial association agrarian services are stepping up their monitoring of the condition of winter crops. Specialists are acting correctly where they are not counting on the favorable weather continuing but are taking samples of winter crops to test their durability. [passage omitted]

The number of economic units in Belorussia that have increased their milk production this year is close to 2,500. The average milk yield per cow has risen 220 kg in 11 months.

According to figures issued on 1 December, livestock and fowl purchases in the RSFSR have increased by 8 percent in comparison with figures for the same time last year, milk purchases have increased by 5 percent, and eggs by 5 percent. Only Pskov and Kaliningrad Oblasts and the Yakut ASSR have milk sales slightly lower than last year. [passage omitted]

CSA REPORT ON MEAT, DAIRY PRODUCTION CITED

LD221857 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Text] According to a USSR Central Statistical Administration [CSA] report received today, the plan for state procurement of milk and meat has been overfulfilled. All union republics have fulfilled the milk plan except Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Estonia. The greatest amount of produce came in from the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Belorussia, and Lithuania. All union republics exceeded last year's level. The meat plan was overfulfilled for the country as a whole, mainly thanks to these same republics, while the farms of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and some other republics have promised to complete the annual plan at the end of December.

Our commentator notes that the systematic increase in animal product procurement is due to the particular concern of workers in the agroindustrial complex to reinforce the fodder basis. An example of this is set by the party organizations of Belgorod Oblast. They have achieved a restructuring of the system of fodder production. The foundation for this is an increase in high-protein fodder production.

Industrial technology for animal care has been introduced on almost all farms. In Belgorod, they have managed to organize milk procurement, conservation, and processing in excellent fashion. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Belorussia, and other union republics have achieved a significant improvement in milk quality: 81 percent of the country's milk is now being accepted as first class. Not long ago, only a little more than 33 percent was thus accepted. As for meat procurement, the most efficient system which has been applied in Lithuania for more than 20 years, is now being studied. Good roads are being built, weighing facilities [vesovoye khozyaystvo] are being set up, and experts trained.

However, in spite of the all-union livestock successes, in many oblasts and republics there are great contrasts in the work of farms. As our correspondent reports from Uzbekistan, in Kashkadarya Oblast the average daily milk yield from a cow at present is only about 3 kilograms. A goat gives more milk. In the Bukhara Oblast great losses are being tolerated in meat production. It is reported from Sverdlovsk that repairs of livestock accommodation have not been completed in the Krinskiy Rayon, and on Bardymskiy sovkhoz fodder is being kept in the open air.

RSFSR CSA ISSUES AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION DATA

LD201044 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] We have just received a report from the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration [CSA]: The republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have overfulfilled the plans for procurement of milk and meat, with almost 36 million metric tons of milk procured; that is 3 percent above plan and 6 percent more than by the same time last year. Best results were achieved by the farmers in Belgorod, Tambov, Volgograd and Saratov Oblasts as well as in Krasnodar Kray. There have been 9,381,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry procured, which is 753,000 metric tons more than a year ago. Good organization of work among the farmers of Belgorod Oblast should be particularly noted: They have overfulfilled the meat plan by 20 percent. The people from Belgorod have been able to achieve this success thanks to the widespread introduction of collective subcontracting. Among the best for production and procurement of meat are the Penza, Leningrad and Vologda Oblast farms, and also those in Krasnodar Kray. The collective of the Kuban agroindustrial combine have set an example of excellent work: The procurement of products is proceeding rhythmically there, without undue haste. This collective has its own processing enterprises and shops, which makes it possible to market output with minimum losses.

The overall success of the Russian Federation is the result of the strengthening of the fodder base. There are fodder shops in operation almost everywhere, and where there is insufficient fuel for them they go over to preparation of moist fodder mixtures. But there are still quite a lot of unused reserves in the Russian Federation for increasing meat production.

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Orenburg and Chita Oblasts and the Chechen-Ingush ASSR are particularly behind. This republic is also behind in milk production.

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

TASS REPORTS 'MIR' ORBITAL STATION PARAMETERS

LD192024 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 19 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 19 TASS -- TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

The orbital station "Mir" has been operating in near-terrestrial space for nine months. After Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyev accomplished their mission, the station has been flying in an automatic mode. According to telemetry, "Mir"'s onboard systems function normally. The parameters of its orbit are as follows:

Maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 349 kilometres,
Minimum distance from the earth's surface -- 321 kilometres,
Period of revolution -- 91.1 minutes,
Inclination -- 51.6 degrees.

The orbital complex "Salyut-7-Cosmos-1686", shifted to the orbit close to the circular one four months ago, which is currently about 480 kilometres high, continues its flight. The "Salyut-7" station now undergoes serviceability tests stipulated by the programme.

The Control Centre processes the incoming information.

COSMONAUT DESCRIBES JOINT SYRIAN SPACEFLIGHT

LD181651 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Excerpts] A report from the USSR Foreign Ministry press center: Two Syrian pilots selected for a Soviet-Syrian space flight have completed a course of theory at the training center for cosmonauts. From the New Year they will start to train for the expedition as part of the main and stand-by crews. [passage omitted] The director of the flight, Valeriy Viktorovich Ryumin, USSR pilot cosmonaut and twice Hero of the Soviet Union, spoke of the flight program at the news conference.

[Ryumin] The start is currently planned for 22 July at approximately 0630 in the morning [0330 GMT]. [passage omitted]

After moving to the space station, the crew will set about fulfulling a joint program. Research in several fields is envisaged. I should note that the first is research into the earth's natural resources. The experiment is called Al-Furat [Euphrates]. It is to be carried out with the use of IKT-140 photographic equipment for manual cameras, set up on the station. The objective of the research is to carry out research into artificial reservoirs, their silting-up, drainage sytems, water resources, the study of forests and agricultural land.

The next field of research is geophysics and the experiment is called Bosra; that is the study of the ionosphere and determination of the external factors influencing the processes that take place in it; refinement of the model of the ionosphere and elucidation of the influence of the processes that take place in the upper atmosphere on conditions on earth. The apparatus to be use is Missiya -- equipment jointly developed by the USSR and Syria. Similar equipment has been used before, but in this instance it was necessary to work some more on it and fit it to this experiment.

The next field of research is technological experiments. They bear the names Palmira and Kasyun. Palmira is growing crystals from water solutions, obtaining spatial structures that emerge from a multitude of microcrystals and their coming together and interlocking in the condition of microgravitation. Kasyun is also a technological experiment -- the study of the influence of microgravitation on the microstructure of guided-crystallized (?eutectic) alloys, the determination of diffuse parameters in the melt near the front of crystallization.

The next field of research is space medicine -- traditional research which is carried out in the acute period of readaptation. The cardiovascular system will be subjected to study with the apparatus that exists on the station; study of the hemogenic system will be carried out with the use of a minicentrifuge which will be on the station -- that is analysis of blood taken from the operators during the flight. Research will be carried out under the name Anketa, and the study called Kontrast is a study of the frequency-contrast characteristics of the visual system of man. [passage omitted]

Details of News Conference

LD192215 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2043 GMT 18 Dec 86

[Special report on USSR Foreign Ministry press conference held 18 December devoted to USSR-Syria space launch; presented by correspondent A. Galkin after conclusion of "Vremya" newscast -- recorded]

[Text] [Galkin] Two Syrian pilots, candidate cosmonauts, have completed a course of theoretical studies in Zvezdnyy Gorodok. From the new year onward they will begin to prepare for an expedition into orbit as part of the space crews. They were presented at the news conference by Air Force Major General Leonov, deputy head of the Cosmonaut Training Center. [video shows medium shot of those holding the news conference seated on platform behind long desk, shots of journalists taking notes]

[Leonov] The research cosmonauts of the Syrian Arab Republic, Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Faris and Lieutenant Colonel Munir Habib, arrived at the Cosmonaut Training Center in October 1985. During that same month they started in the general space training program. General space training included the study of fundamental sciences connected with the study of disciplines such as flight dynamics, control systems, the fundamentals of space navigation, practical work on simulators, medico-biological training, physical training, and the study of the Russian language. A total of 1,400 hours was spent in training. From September until December the research cosmonauts studied spacecraft, including the specific system of the "Soyuz-T" spacecraft and the "Mir" orbiting station on which they will have to fly, and studied the systems with which they will have to work.

All in all they have arrived at such a level where a crew can be formed and the direct preparation for the space flight can be started. The decision regarding the makeup of the crews was made yesterday.

The main crew is made up as the follows: the commander, Lt Col Aleksandr Stepanovich Viktorenko; the flight engineer, USSR pilot cosmonaut, Hero of the Soviet Union Aleksandr Pavlovich Aleksandrov; and the research cosmonaut, Lt Col Muhammad Ahmad Faris.

The backup crew is made up as follows: the crew commander, Lt Col Anatoliy Yakovlevich Solovyev; the flight engineer, USSR pilot cosmonaut, twice Hero of the Soviet Union Viktor Petrovich Savinykh; and the research cosmonaut, Lt Col Munir Habib Habib.

The commander of the main crew is Lt Col Aleksandr Stepanovich Viktorenko. He was born in 1947. In 1969 he graduated from the Orenburg Higher Air Force College. He is a first class military pilot and a third class test pilot. He has undergone very long training as a test cosmonaut and was repeatedly the commander of a backup crew under the programs of the "Salyut" and "Mir" orbiting stations.

Flight engineer Aleksandr Pavlovich Aleksandrov, Hero of the Soviet Union, was born in 1943. In 1983 he carried out a 150-day space flight aboard the Soyuz-7/Soyuz-T orbiting complex. Together with Comrade Viktorenko, his commander, Aleksandrov acted as a backup crew for the Kizim-Solovyev crew.

On the whole they are very experienced cosmonauts.

The research cosmonaut of the main crew, Lt Col Muhammad Ahmad Faris, was born in 1951. He is a military pilot and instructor. He arrived at the Cosmonaut Training Center in 1985, and during this period he showed a very high level of knowledge of what he had been taught. [video shows Leonov, other cosmonauts, and audience]

The commander of the second crew, Lt Col Solovyev, was born in 1948. In 1972 he graduated from the Chernigov Higher Air Force College. He is a first-class military pilot and a second-class test pilot. He has been at the Cosmonaut Training Center since 1976.

The flight engineer of the second crew, Viktor Petrovich Savinykh, was born in 1940. He has carried out two space flights.

The research cosmonaut of the second crew, Lt Col Munir Habib Habib, was born in 1953. He is a military pilot instructor.

That's some brief information on the crews.

[Galkin] 'Abdallah al-Zurf, general of a Syrian Air Force division, has stated: We have brought from our country the warmest wishes to the Soviet people and the hope that the Soviet-Syrian crew will successfully fulfill its mission, which we consider to be a bright material expression of the friendship and cooperation which links our countries. He also stressed that usually the candidates of the main crew are designated by the country from which the cosmonauts came, but we value equally highly both Muhammad Faris and Munir Habib; therefore we offered the right of choice to the Soviet side. They have more accurate criteria for appraisal.

Flight director Valeriy Ryumin reported that the launch is planned for the end of next July. The programs of this expedition are rich with various experiments on natural history and geophysical, technological, and medical experiments. Specialists of the Soviet Union and Syria are taking part in the experiments' preparation and also in the elaboration of apparatus.

[Ryumin] We are planning that before the flight of the Syrian crew, an astrophysical module will be docked with the "Mir" station and work will be carried out. This will include a complex of scientific research using apparatus installed on it. This is astrophysics, mainly.

[Galkin] A question was asked: How did the backup crew take the fact that they won't be flying into space? Munir Habib said: I will behave as a member of the backup crew just as if I were working as a member of the main one. Moreover, situations do occur where the backup crew becomes the main one. [video shows Habib speaking]

[Solovyev] Our backup crew will be fully prepared and will be found to be as good as the first crew.

[Galkin] Correspondents inquired as to whether any of the backups of previous international crews would succeed in realizing their dream of space flight.

[Leonov] All backup cosmonauts, representatives of countries who flew on our spaceships, have not broken with space; on the contrary, they have become great specialists, scientists in that area. And at present anyone of those who were backups in the past, in general, in our view, can take up a place in a spaceship according to his level of training. Two representatives of France, Jean-Loup Chretien and Michel Tonini are currently in the Soviet Union undergoing training; they have already started training. At the beginning of January two representatives of Bulgaria will arrive in the Soviet Union. One of the candidates for this place is Aleksandrov, a former research cosmonaut and backup. Of course we would like him to pass the repeat medical competition and to join this group.

[Galkin] The Syrian pilots told the journalists about life and work in Zvezdnyy Gorodok and expressed gratitude to specialists in the Cosmonaut Training Center for their help in coming to grips with a complicated profession. The forthcoming joint work of scientists and specialists and cosmonauts under the flags of the USSR and the Syrian Arab Republic, they stated, will become an important landmark in the peaceful mastering of space. [video shows lineup of those holding the news conference]

PLANS FOR 2D JOINT BULGARIAN SPACE VENTURE NOTED

LD211808 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Two spacemen-hopefuls are coming from Bulgaria to the Soviet Union in January for a second Soviet-Bulgarian space venture. This was reported by Aleksey Leonov, one of the people in charge of the Soviet space program. The mission is slated for 1988. Both nations' research centers have been working on an extensive program of the mission to be executed on board the Mir orbital station with the stress being on astrophysics and space technology. [passage omitted]

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Due to the extra holiday on 26 December, DAILY REPORT No 248 will not be published.

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CHERNYSHEV COMMENTS ON U.S. 'ABANDONING' SALT II

LD231528 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1115 GMT 23 Dec 86

["Ideas of Reykjavik and U.S. Actions" program, presented by commentator Andrey Ptashnikov, with TASS military observer Vladimir Chernyshev]

[Excerpts] [Ptashnikov] [passage omitted] There is seemingly no danger in the introduction of only one additional nuclear weapons' carrier in excess of the level stipulated by the SALT II Treaty, if the treaty permits possession of 2,400 carriers, with 1,320 of them allowed to have MIRVed warheads or to carry cruise missiles.

[Chernyshev] Right, strictly speaking this is true. Nothing out of the ordinary happened at first sight -- the United States had 130 heavy bombers fitted with cruise missiles, now they have 131; what is the big deal? This only led to an increase of some fractions of a percent in the potential of the U.S. strategic bomber force, and in terms of strategic nuclear forces as a whole, even less than that. Perhaps that is not perfectly right, but there still is nothing terribly wrong with it. Right, it seems to be true. The addition of one more bomber carrying cruise missiles, to the U.S. nuclear arsenal has not effectively impaired the approximate military balance of the USSR and the United States. But what is involved, however, is not just one aircraft. The point is, the Washington administration is derailing the agreed-upon legal system securing a military parity between the Soviet Union and the United States, and this system has been curbing the strategic arms race over a number of years.

Having trampled upon the SALT II treaty, Washington acted as a violator of the process of cardinally reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons, and did this in the most cynical way. It is destroying the very foundation of that process. The repercussions of the relinquishment of the treaty by the United States are quite far-reaching. First, it means that Washington abandons the principle of equitability and equal security, which was laid in the foundation of the treaty.

[Tashnikov] Vladimir Nikolayevich, what precisely are the objectives pursued by the U.S. Administration in connection with their abandoning the SALT II treaty? How can their moves be assessed in the light of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Reykjavik, and how would they affect the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons?

[Chernyshev] The decision to increase its strategic means arsenal and to cross out the SALT II treaty is dictated by nothing else than by Washington's desire to achieve military superiority. The Reagan administration long been undertaking actions obviously violating the treaty. Thus, for instance, in ignoring the special limitations envisaged by the protocol attached to that treaty, the United States has embarked on mass deployment of long-range cruise missiles. Washington also tiptoed around the treaty, having deployed medium-range missiles in Western Europe, missiles which are a direct extension of the U.S. strategic potential. And now Washington has decided to get rid of the treaty altogether, because the latter has become a serious obstacle on the path of fulfilling military programs.

In precisely the same way, plans and interests of the U.S. military and industrial complex come into conflict with another very important treaty -- that on limiting the antimissile defense systems, or the ABM Treaty, as we call it. The United States has conceived the creation of a widescale system of antimissile defense with space-based elements, the system of strike space weapons. That is why the ABM Treaty is, for the U.S. Administration, the next target after the SALT II treaty. The administration has now started shaking this treaty loose as well.

The breach of the SALT II treaty and the attempts to do the same with the ABM Treaty are [illegible] elements of a single design. Through stepping up their strategic offensive forces they want to create opportunities for dealing a first disarming strike. Through setting up a space shield, they aspire to protect themselves from a retaliatory strike of retribution.

It is also quite revealing that the U.S. Administration has decided to deal a blow on the structure of fundamental accords in the field of limiting strategic armaments precisely at the moment that a prospect for normalizing the international situation finally emerged. The Soviet program for eliminating nuclear weapons by the year 2000 has met with wide understanding and an encouraging response throughout the world. The initiatives put forward on its basis and brought by our country to the meeting in Reykjavik, opened real ways for achieving a nonnuclear world. The premise for a turning point in the entire international situation emerged. The fact that the U.S. Administration chose precisely that moment to torpedo the SALT II treaty cannot be seen as anything else but a major provocation, an attempt to arrest the tendency for relaxing international tensions.

[Ptashnikov] Valdimir Nikolayevich, as is known, the Soviet Government declared that the Soviet Union, for the time being, would refrain from walking out from the accords on SALT I and SALT II. Could the unilateral adherence to these accords affect the security of of our country, and for how long can the Soviet Union restrain itself? Judging from letters, a great number of our listeners are concerned with this issue.

[Chernyshev] Basically, you are right. It is a very serious and a very important question. The Soviet Union naturally had all grounds for relinquishing -- and relinquishing automatically -- the relevant obligations of the treaty and the accord, which are being dismantled by the United States. If one was to be guided by emotions alone, perhaps that would be the right thing to do. The Soviet leadership, however, was proceeding from different considerations when examining the issue, that is, from sensibly made estimates, from the inner logic of our policies. It thoroughly considered the political, military, and -- I would even say -- moral aspects of the situation which is shaping itself. It arrived at the conclusion for the need to make extra efforts in order to protect mankind from the threat of slipping onto the track of strategic chaos. Having declared that the USSR will, for the time being, adhere to the limitations, the Soviet side proceeds from the enormous universal significance of that issue, from the same noble and humane motives that stand behind our program for eliminating all nuclear weapons -- the Soviet 18-month-long moratorium on any nuclear explosions -- behind the large-scale compromise proposals of the Soviet Union in Reykjavik.

The Soviet Union has declared that it will be following very closely the actions of the United States with regard to parity and whether it is affected by excessive loads by the U.S. military programs. All actions undertaken by the USSR, including those which are unilateral, have been thoroughly thought out and weighed, in order not to jeopardize the security of our country. The Soviet leadership has stated firmly that it will not tolerate U.S. military superiority over the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

PENTAGON SAYS 10 MX MISSILES ON 'COMBAT ALERT'

LD232310 Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 23 TASS -- Ten latest MX ballistic missiles each tipped with ten nuclear warheads have been deployed and put on combat alert in the area of the U.S. Air Force Base Warren in Wyoming, a spokesman for the Pentagon said.

These ten missiles are the first among the 50 MX missiles to be phased in and appropriations for whose construction and deployment have already been set aside by Congress. The administration, according to a report of the White House and Pentagon press office, intends to seek from Congress appropriations for another 50 MX missiles and also for the development and construction of special railway flatcars for them. Simultaneously President Reagan has decided to give a go-ahead to full-scale work to develop a new mobile ballistic missile Midgetman.

Thus after trampling underfoot the SALT-2 treaty, the U.S. Administration is making fresh steps directed at starting a new spiral of the nuclear weapons race. In wresting from Congress ever new billions of dollars to create new types and kinds of nuclear weapons on the "Star Wars" programme the administration is cynically using the "argument" that a buildup of the U.S. nuclear arsenals and developments aimed at spreading the weapons race into outer space "will contribute to progress" at the talks with the Soviet Union on the limitation and reduction of strategic offensive weapons.

NONPROLIFERATION TALKS HELD IN WASHINGTON

LD201120 Moscow TASS in English 1056 GMT 20 Dec 86

[Text] Washington December 20 TASS -- Another round of Soviet-American consultations on matters related to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons was held here.

The Soviet delegation was led by B.A. Semenov, deputy chairman of the U.S.S.R. Committee for Atomic Energy, and the American -- by special envoy Richard Kennedy.

The sides discussed a wide range of issues dealing with the consolidation of the regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, including the tasks of strengthening the treaty of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, the system of IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) safeguards and controls over nuclear export.

They also discussed matters related to the establishment of nuclear-free zones in different regions of the world and exchanged views on possible ways for strengthening the regime of safe development of nuclear power.

During the consultations the Soviet side emphasized the need for achieving real progress in the sphere of nuclear disarmament and for a complete termination of nuclear weapons tests as required by the non-proliferation treaty.

It was noted that the absence of such progress and the destruction of agreements on the limitation of strategic offensive arms were fraught with negative consequences for the regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Both sides came out in favor of working jointly with other countries to consolidate the regime of non-proliferation and enhance the efficiency of the treaty, specifically by means of expanding the number of its signatories. They emphasized the need for developing international cooperation in the sphere of peaceful uses of nuclear power.

The sides agreed to continue consultations on matters related to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in the summer of 1987.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION — QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD200430 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 19 Dec 86

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program with political observer Aleksandr Zholkver and commentators Vladimir Fedayev, Igor Charikov, and Vyacheslav Lavrentyev; names of commentators replying to questions supplied when identified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Yuriy Aleksandrovich Abrasakhalov says the following questions interest him. Won't the introduction of the moratorium on testing nuclear weapons in the USSR affect the defense capability of our Armed Forces? The United States has carried out 24 nuclear explosions; France continues testing, and Britain, the Republic of South Africa [RSA], Pakistan, and Israel possess nuclear weapons. And a second question: Would you discuss Soviet-Cuban relations on matters of war peace?

[Answer] Your question is perfectly understandable. Of late, the subject has been worrying very many Soviet people. Indeed, the acts carried out in Reykjavik by our leadership are so constructive and they go so far toward nuclear disarmament that some people are involuntarily asking if we are not weakening ourselves by these initiatives. The chief of staff of the USSR Armed Forces, Marshal Akhromeyev, addressed a press conference and made it understood that, of course, it is not a simple matter. We have, after all, made this decision after serious consideration, but either way our defense might remain sufficiently firm and the views of our military leaders can serve as evidence that we are not in fact disarming ourselves; we are not becoming weaker from the point of view of our defense potential.

[Second commentator] I would like to say that this kind of question is being posed not only by you, but also quite often in the West, including among representatives of the antiwar movement. I was the television moderator of a broadcast consisting of a roundtable conversation with leaders of the antiwar movement in the FRG. It was entitled — not fortuitously — From Hasselbach to Reykjavik. Hasselbach is a place in the FRG where a major U.S. military base having cruise missiles is sited. At this roundtable we also talked about the fact that, of course, the Soviet Union cannot extend the moratorium infinitely. Taking care of our security is a matter for constant and attentive examination, both in the CPSU Central Committee and in our military leadership. It would be absolutely wrong to act in the way that certain politicians in the West have been acting. You'll recall, perhaps, that this was discussed during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's meeting with Norwegian Prime Minister Brundtland. Those in the West have said that after 500 days of a Soviet moratorium, wouldn't it be good if there were another 500 days; wouldn't it be good if the Soviet Union adopted unilateral measures in the field of conventional weapons. But the Western politicians are misapprehending the situation, when the wish is always addressed just to one side.

Imagine for a moment what the outcry in the world would be if the United States had silenced its Nevada test site for 500 days and during this time the Soviet Union had carried out 24 explosions of nuclear weapons at Semipalatinsk. Suffice to imagine this situation, in order to understand just how great is the actual contribution that the Soviet Union has already made to nuclear disarmament. Of course, these acts cannot be limitless. This was also said sufficiently frankly by the Norwegian minister, and it was stressed that in order to move along the path that has already led to Reykjavik and to move along the path to nuclear disarmament, we need the will of both sides. We need actions from both powers, not just from the Soviet Union, but also from the United States.

In this respect, it must be said that the role of the antiwar movement both in our country and abroad is sufficiently great to apply pressure on certain circles in the United States so that they might follow our example.

[Third commentator] On the second question: It must be said that the Cuban leadership fully supports our peaceful foreign policy course. As a matter of fact, Cuba is perhaps one of a few countries that is particularly acutely aware of the military burden. The 90 miles separating the United States from Cuba force Fidel Castro and the other Cuban leaders to pay maximum attention to defense. More than 7 million people took part in some way in the most recent exercises that have just taken place in Cuba, out of about 10 million people now living in Cuba. That means the civilian population, the elderly, and children were included. Well, their role was, so to speak, minimal; they had to go into concealment, but nevertheless you can see what kind of efforts, just how much organizational work had to be done, in order to mobilize 7 out of 10 million people.

It is no exaggeration when I say that there have been 24 attempts on the life of Fidel Castro. This has been the actual case. We are talking about state terrorism -- CIA men have been caught at it 24 times. I'll tell you about one of them, for example. Fidel has contacts with many journalists, including Americans. He was on good terms with one of these journalists, then suddenly a parcel arrives for Fidel from this journalist in the United States. You know, Fidel is a keen underwater hunter, and the parcel contained a diving suit. Well, it turned out that Fidel was busy and this suit lay unused for more than a month, and in that time information came through that the suit had nothing at all to do with this journalist. It was checked through more carefully, and it turned out that it was impregnated with nerve gas which is activated in the water. If he had put it on, he would have dived and never come up.

Cuba is now the face of socialism, and all Latin America is watching it. So why is Reagan actually so aggressive against Cuba? Because any Latin American arriving in Cuba starts to see with open eyes and marvel that it is now possible, for example, to travel around Havana all night perfectly safely. No one will trouble you, and no one will put his hand in your pocket. In Venezuela the contrast is so striking between the poor and rich that the deprived have hatred in their eyes; it jumps out at you. And there they don't steal rings off fingers; they cut the fingers off. They don't say 'Your money or your life' there; straight off they just hit you and then search you. If they find anything, fine, if they don't well... life there's not worth a bean. When a Latin American comes to Cuba, he doesn't even have to be persuaded; everything is clear to him. Quite recently, the United States stopped all contacts with Cuba -- they are not even allowing politicians or journalists to go to that island. All this is being done in order to isolate, and not only to isolate Cuba from the United States, but the United States from Cuba.

[Commentator] The recent measures banned visas to Cuban models who were to display Cuban fashions at one of the exhibition centers of the United Nations. That's the kind of threat hanging over the United States.

[Passage omitted: A senior craftsman asks at what stage of research and development are the nuclear weapons of Israel and the RSA. This was discussed recently at the UN Security Council. One of the written questions asks about the results of Gorbachev's visit to India. The answer gives a description of India's population and economic progress. For more than 30 years the USSR has had stable, mutually beneficial relations with India, cooperating in fields such as power engineering, heavy machine-building, and metallurgy. India is a leader in the Nonaligned Movement. Apart from the Delhi declaration, agreements on various subjects, including economic cooperation, were signed during the visit.]

[Question] Vasiliy Matveyevich Cherkassov, engineer, writes: In the mid-fifties, I was works Komsomol organizer and we met very many young people from abroad. I particularly remember meeting young Chinese people who were friendly and open. If you had told us then that our relationship would have a falling out, we would not, of course, have believed you; neither we nor they.

[Answer] I would like to mention two main events in the history of development of our relations with the PRC which we have witnessed literally in the past few days. First, after a break of many years we have once again opened up a PRC General Consulate in Leningrad and a Soviet General Consulate in Shanghai. This is, as you will understand, a big step and upturn in our relations onto a qualitatively new stage of expansion. The second thing I am thinking of is the large, really a major, Soviet trade and industrial exhibition that is under way in Beijing now. You have probably seen our reports from the Chinese exhibition that was held not that long ago in Moscow, and now we have an exhibition in return. Taking part in it are a large number of our foreign trade associations, with more than 500 exhibits.

Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, the chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent a message of greeting to the participants in the exhibition, and this message stressed that in recent years there has been a considerable improvement in relations between the Soviet Union and the PRC. Various ties are expanding; trade is increasing, and economic, scientific-technological, and cultural cooperation is developing. It also recalled that the 27th CPSU Congress noted that there is immense potential for our cooperation and that the Soviet people welcome with respect the aim set by the Communist Party of China of modernizing the country and building a socialist society in peaceful conditions.

The exhibition has been visited by a whole series of important Chinese leaders, including Zhao Ziyang, premier of the State Council. A delegation from our Soviet Government is there, and after visiting the exhibition, Zhao Ziyang said that this exhibition is creating a propitious opportunity for the Chinese people to become acquainted with the achievements of the Soviet people. He also expressed confidence that the exhibition will make a contribution to the cause of strengthening friendship between the peoples of the two countries and the development of economic and commercial ties between the USSR and the PRC. Naturally, we have similar attitudes to a considerable extent on a whole range of major international problems.

Take, for example, the speech by the representative of the PRC in the Special Political Committee of the UN General Assembly: He said that China opposes all forms of the arms race in space and the militarization of space. But nevertheless, comrades, we cannot pass over what I would call certain attempts at putting the policies of the two powers, the Soviet Union and PRC, on the same plane. This was reflected in Beijing's attitude to the problems of Reykjavik. There was a statement from Beijing that China expected nothing good from Reykjavik, because over there they believed that in any event only two -- as they put -- superpowers are pushing ahead the arms race. True, they immediately added that in any event Beijing does believe that dialogue is better than military confrontation, and that they advocate the continuation of the Soviet-U.S. talks on disarmament.

As for policy, a reform of the political structure, as Deng Xiaoping puts it, is now under way. Much is now under study and review, and this is directly connected, as he himself stresses, with the need to overcome bureaucracy and to mobilize the grass-roots organizations, including those in the party, and the mass of the people. In an interview with Hu Yaobang, the general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, given to the West German newspaper DIE WELT, this is literally what was said: Our planned reform of political structures is self-improvement of a socialist system and not an attempt at eliminating it.

[Question] Yakov Izmaylovich Vasilyev, an engraver, writes: Comrade Fadeyev, why did Babrak Karmal request his release from his state and party posts?

[Fadayev] Following his speech at the 16th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, where, if you follow events in Afghanistan, he came out with a very interesting program for the expansion of the social base of people's power, Comrade Karmal put before the leadership of the Central Committee and the Politburo the question of relieving him of part of his workload, of at least one of his posts. He held two very important posts -- first, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and second, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, that is, the supreme organ of power in the DRA. He wanted to be released due to the state of his health. This request was examined later and granted. You know that at the 18th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, Comrade Najib was elected general secretary. Babrak Karmal retained the post of chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium. The 20th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee held on 22 January considered it possible to satisfy Comrade Babrak Karmal's second request and released him from the post that remained, the post of chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium. Comrade Babrak Karmal offered one reason -- his poor state of health.

Now what can I add personally as one who has lived for several years in Afghanistan? I would like to express a view of the style and methods that today are characteristic of the party Central Committee and Politburo that are new and have appeared following the 18th Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. It is no accident that the party members themselves call it the plenum of restructuring, the plenum of renewal. This really is so. I think that the demands made on the party leadership, including the leader himself, by today's revolutionary situation in the country -- and it must be said that it is not a simple one at all -- were, in my view, given his state of health, probably beyond his ability to undertake normally. Of course, Karmal's age was such that, I think, it was difficult for him to cope with the demands and circumstances that emerged in life. Incidentally, the changes that have taken place under the new leader are noticeable today. There is more material in the papers now on what the PDPA Central Committee and its Politburo are doing; there is more openness. Party functionaries -- and I use this word in a good, positive sense here -- have started traveling more to the provinces and meeting the people.

For several years I drove past Delkosha Palace, Babrak Karmal's residence, every day. As it happens, particularly in such countries, there is a custom of receiving petitioners. You may remember we also had petitioners from the villages being received by Lenin in the first years after the revolution. I could not cite a single example to illustrate vividly, say, how crowds of petitioners came to see Babrak Karmal, how he received them, patiently listening to their requests and carefully looking into their problems. This simply was not the way things were done. These days, every Thursday -- this is the eve of the day of rest in the Muslim calendar -- at Delkosha Palace, Comrade Najib, the new party leader, holds extensive meetings with people at which a frank, democratic, and sometimes impartial [nelitsepriyatnyy] [as heard] discussion is held with these petitioners. This has become the general rule and normal procedure.

[Question] Pavel Vasilyevich, who works in the dispatch offices, writes: With what forces inside Iran did the present U.S. Administration attempt to establish contact through the mission of McFarlane, and what was Khomeyni's reaction to this?

[Answer] The Americans sought moderate forces in Iran with whom they would like to establish contact, so as to influence the situation in Iran through them.

But as is already clear from the hearings taking place on this affair in the U.S. Congress, they failed to find such forces. As far as Khomeyni is concerned, he stated quite categorically at the very beginning that he had no contacts with the Americans.

[Second commentator answers] As far as the final part of the reply to the question is concerned, I would just like to cite a few remarks by Khomeyni himself on this. Here is the report as transmitted by a UPI correspondent from Iran. Khomeyni stated the following when the whole Irangate business began to flare up: I must congratulate everyone on the powerful explosion that has taken place in Washington over the recent approach to Tehran. The U.S. President -- these are Khomeyni's exact words -- should go into mourning over this shameful episode, and the White House should be called the Black House it has always been.

It must be said that there has also been speculation about Hashemi-Rafsanjani. He is the speaker of the Majlis, the Iranian parliament, and speculation was that he conducted talks with at least the first large group. You will no doubt know, comrades, that the first group comprised McFarlane, the former U.S. presidential national security adviser; and was accompanied by the present-day U.S. James Bond, Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, an official of the National Security Council. They traveled under false Norwegian passports, posing as crew-members on an aircraft that landed there, bringing several metric tons of military cargo.

They delivered mainly spare parts for the Iranian Air Force. According to Pentagon valuations they were worth $12 million. According to the most modest estimates, they received $30 million for the parts, and according to some estimates, $32 million. So that was a profit level of over 200 percent. A lucrative deal! What happened to the additional $18-20 million? The money disappeared on the way. You will know that a false account was opened in a Swiss bank under Lt Col North's name. If people can make a bit on the side and transfer cash even from a CIA account to their personal account, they do so. This is what happened in this instance. But the money didn't just go to North's personal account and the accounts of certain other present and former CIA officials. Fairly important U.S. politicians also clearly received a large cut.

[Question] I am Yuriy Aleksandrovich Abasakhalov, an engineer-designer. I have a question to ask. At the beginning of the sixties, there arose such a situation around Cuba, when the U.S. troops could have invaded the country. Our government at that time was taking very energetic diplomatic and other measures, and one felt that Cuba could not be invaded. In my view, the same situation has arisen today with regard to Nicaragua. But one does not somehow feel the same active approach, if one judges by the press, that is.

[Answer] Well, you know, I simply categorically disagree with you, because one of the directions into which the efforts of our government and of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev are now channelled is to untie the knots of these regional conflicts. These conflicts have occurred in the Near East, Central America, around Nicaragua, and in Southeast Asia. Many effrorts are being made here.

Moreover, precisely the forces getting involved in solving these problems are those which were generally in a slumber before and failed to take part. Take the Central American crisis, for example. Almost all Latin American countries are now trying to solve or contribute to solving it. You know about the Contadora group, about the support group? If we list them -- Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay -- you will see that these are the major Latin American countries. Practically the entire continent is joining in finding a solution to this problem. They are taking a stance, moreover, which is wholly shared by the Soviet Union.

This implies above all a peaceful solution of this problem, and, of course, the United States and Reagan will have to think hard before they decide to unleash an armed conflict against Nicaragua. These countries are taking an uncompromising stance. Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid is not embarrassed about expressing his completely contrary views on Central American problems in his conversations with Reagan. These things never happened before. Latin America was always considered to be the backyard of the United States. The U.S. is, indeed, enjoying colossal influence there, especially economic influence, considering the enormous debts that have accumulated. Can you imagine, Brazil has a debt of over $100 billion; Argentina has a $45 billion debt. These are the levers the United States would like to use to direct the foreign policy of these countries, but the levers are not working now.

[Question] My name is Trofim Borisovich Kovezhnikov. I work in a personnel department. My question is: How is the situation around Syria currently developing, and what will the USSR's position be if Syria is attacked?

[Answer] You have asked a question about one of the regions we count among the world's trouble spots. It is a trouble spot for a whole set of reasons. Above all, it is a region where we see the U.S. policy of neoglobalism applies, a policy manifested in a whole set of regions and here of a particularly pronounced, strong-arm character, so to speak. The point is that the Mediterranean, which is thousands of miles away from the United States, is the area where the U.S. 6th Fleet is concentrated. It is the site of the deployment of a whole string of large U.S. military bases. It is the location of a whole set of recent aggressive military actions undertaken by the United States.

Suffice to recall just the U.S. air raids on Libya. Incidentally, you will probably have noted that over the last few days, what we call Irangate -- the scandal involving U.S. arms supplies to Iran -- has been mounting. The influence of the U.S. special services and the Pentagon in other regions has also been emerging. Among other things, it is emerging, for instance, that Britain was doubly involved in the U.S. air raid in Libya. Not only did the American F-111 bombers which carried out the bombings take off from U.S. bases in Britain with the blessing of British military circles, but, as is now emerging, it was carried out with the direct involvement of British military circles in the selection of targets.

I'm straying from your immediate question about Syria with good reason. This is because the mechanics of this policy of neo-globalism are very important to provide an understanding of what could also happen with Syria. Syria is also being accused of involvement in terrorism, just as Libya was. U.S. armed forces are being concentrated both on the ships of the 6th Fleet and on the U.S. bases in the region. Let me add this: We were talking about how far this region is from the United States. But on the other hand, it is in the immediate vicinity of our southern borders.

You will know that we are linked with Syria by a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. Naturally, the situation cannot fail to cause concern in our country. This is all the more so because, as you will know, our squadron is also in the Mediterranean, along with the U.S. 6th Fleet. What are our proposals? Above all -- and this has been stated in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's speeches -- the question of military detente in the Mediterranean area is posed. Above all, the issue of the withdrawal from the region of ships carrying nuclear weapons is posed. The question of reducing the strengths of the naval forces of both sides in this region is posed. Above all, of course, the question of a political settlement of the Near East conflict is posed, and first and foremost through the convocation of an international conference on the Near East.

The point is that the Palestinians are deprived of a state of their own because the resolution of the United Nations passed back in 1947 on the creation of two states in this region, an Arab Palestinian state and the Jewish State of Israel, has not been fulfilled. Only half of this resolution was fulfilled. The State of Israel was established. The Palestinian Arabs were deprived of a state of their own. They have settled in different parts of this region. They are in Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan. Both the UN resolutions and documents of the Soviet Government defend the sole, just viewpoint that the Palestinians have the same right to the creation of their own state as the State of Israel. This is, of course, linked to the important role played by Syria in the region. Syrian military contingents are part of the inter-Arab forces on Lebanese territory. Syria pursues a consistently anti-imperialist policy, and that is why all sorts of threats and pressure are directed toward it.

Put briefly, the point is that a political solution to this issue of the Near East conflict is needed, with the involvement of all the Arab states concerned, including Syria of course, and with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council, which includes the Soviet Union. [Passage omitted: An employee in a personnel office asks about the U.S. state system of misinformation. (?Lavrentyev) explains that the only state-controlled part of the mass media is the Voice of America radio station and that the remainder is in private hands, and goes on to say that while the journalists are professionals, they are prepared to present material favorable to the Soviet Union so rarely you can count them on your fingers. He personally saw one positive film during his 4 years in the United States. A quality control supervisor asks for details of what was behind the death of Samantha Smith and her father.]

KASHLEV HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE ON CSCE ISSUES

Cites U.S. 'Duplicity'

LD231723 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS -- The exchange of views held at the all-European meeting in Vienna has demonstrated opposite approaches to the discussion of the course of implementation of the provisions of the Helsinki and Madrid accords, a press conference held here today was told by Yuriy Kashlev, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Administration for Humanitarian and Cultural Relations, who heads the Soviet delegation.

Some delegates, he said, were sincerely trying to hold discussions on an equal footing and briefed the others on what is being done in their countries to implement the Helsinki and Madrid accords, expressed constructive proposals and made critical remarks when necessary. The others struck the posture of prosecutors and were speaking only about the affairs of other peoples, passing over in silence their own affairs, were trying to warp the whole process of the Conference on European Security and Cooperation.

Some delegations concentrated on malicious attacks against other countries, trying in every way possible to slander their policy and practices.

As the discussion of the military-political issues has shown, the dividing line in the approaches of the participating countries to the problems of security in Europe and realization of their commitments under the Final Act runs between those, who, acting in the spirit of new thinking, wish for settling international problems and strengthening universal security and those, who acting from force of inertia, are clinging tenaciously to confrontation, trying to frustrate the positive changes in the world. Figuratively speaking, this dividing line runs not between political blocs, but between political thinking.

One of these tendencies was personified by the Soviet Union and the socialist countries. Among its milestones were: the programme for the elimination until [as received] the end of this century of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, which was advanced by Mikhail Gorbachev in his statement of January 15 this year; the USSR's bold and cardinal proposals at Reykjavik; the unilateral termination of nuclear tests by the Soviet Union, and others.

Another approach found its expression in the adoption by the USA of the "Star Wars" programme and the drawing of other countries into it, in the frustration of the agreements, which began to take shape at Reykjavik, and the course for the total scrapping of its outcome, in the continuing nuclear weapons tests, in the abandonment of the SALT-2 Treaty containing the weapons race, in the attempt to torpedo the fundamentals of the ABM Treaty, i.e. in undermining practically all the key instruments of maintaining strategic stability in the world.

On issues related to trade-economic and scientific-technical ties, to enviromental protection, discussions were more or less businesslike, and interest in those issues was displayed by most of the delegations.

Questions pertaining to human rights and cooperation in the humanitarian field occupied a great and important place in the discussions on the implementation of the Helsinki and Madrid accords. Deplorably, the discussion of those issues was in a larger measure in the character of confrontation than on any other acute problems. The lead in that policy of confrontation was taken by the delegations of the USA, Canada and Britain.

Representatives of the USA, the country which perpetrated over the period between Madrid and Vienna crying acts of direct aggression against Libya, Grenada and Nicaragua, which trampled underfoot the Helsinki Declaration, the country disregarding the decisions of the international court, systematically perpetrating crude and massive violations of human rights and basic freedoms on its own territory, were not ashamed to pose for prosecuting attorneys. The destructive policy of the U.S. delegation and those who aligned with it was characterized by duplicity, double standards, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

It is necessary to look thoroughly, in a businesslike manner into the whole complex of humanitarian issues in order to speed up progress in that field, he said. That is precisely why the Soviet delegation tabled a proposal that a conference be held in Moscow of the countries -- participants in the Conference on European Security and Cooperation on problems of humanitarian cooperation. A comprehensive examination of humanitarian issues directed at achieving practical results, and their discussion in the context of human rights would undoubtedly contribute to the attainmente of the common goal. We hope that this proposal will be a subject of an objective examination at the Vienna meeting.

Comments on Sakharov

LD232300 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The Soviet delegation to the Helsinki follow-up conference in Vienna has just returned to Moscow for the end of the year recess. Upon its arrival, the delegation held a press conference to sum up the results of the first stage of the Vienna meeting of the 35 countries engaged in the Helsinki process of cooperation and security in Europe. Nikolay Gorshkov was at the Soviet Foreign Ministry press center and here's his report:

[Gorshkov] Moscow's international press corps was addressed by the head of the Soviet delegation, Ambassador Yuriy Kashlev. [passage omitted] Yuriy Kashlev then answered some of the media questions.

[Begin recording] [(Inns)] (Carol Inns) of ASSOCIATED PRESS. Can you tell us, does the Soviet Government consider that the people have the right to dissent from the views and policies of the Communist Party and to speak out about those differences, and if so does the government consider that a mistake was made when Andrey Sakharov was sent into exile 7 years ago? [end recording]

If you take the Soviet press, Yuriy Kashlev said, even in the Communist Party newspaper PRAVDA, not to mention such periodicals as the LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, you'll find plenty of opinions different from official ones. Anything is subject to criticism in the Soviet Union these days, and it is difficult to sort out which opinions differ from official ones and which do not. What matters is that different opinions help to arrive at optimal solutions. As far as Andrey Sakharov is concerned, said Ambassador Kashlev, his dissent went beyond voicing his opinions. He committed certain actions qualified as slander against this state and was prosecuted according to the law of the land. Recently he was pardoned on humanitarian grounds and now has every opportunity to continue his scientific work in Moscow.

Another question on the same topic followed.

[Begin recording] [(Emmett)] (Peter Emmett) CNN, a question for Ambassador Kashlev. This morning Dr Sakharov returned to Moscow and he answered many of our questions -- one about Afghanistan. In response to that question he said, I consider this is the most painful part of our foreign policy, and I hope there will be more decisive measures taken in that sphere than are being taken at present. Wasn't this the kind of comment that persuaded your government to send Dr Sakharov into exile originally, and if he continues to make such comments is it possible that he will be returned to internal exile? [end recording]

I personally do not see anything wrong in Dr Sakharov's statement, Ambassador Kashlev replied. The Soviet leadership has more than once said that it is for a speedy solution to the Afghan problem and would like to return all the Soviet troops temporarily stationed there. And the people who said such things about Afghanistan are not necessarily sent to the city of Gorkiy. And if Dr Sakharov is sincere and objective in his opinions, I don't think he'll even be prosecuted.

Another question followed.

[Begin recording] [(Barber)] (Tony Barber) of REUTERS. Can one of the panel confirm that the Soviet Union follow [as heard] the examples of Hungary and Poland and allow more than one candidate to stand in elections to local government organs and so on, thus giving people a bit more choice in elections? [end recording]

You know, said the Soviet chief delegate, electoral practices differ in different countries. Before one candidate emerges in the Soviet constituency, he competes with many others in his work place or residential district for nomination. In fact, many candidates are being proposed, discussed, rejected or upheld during the pre-election nomination procedures. So this is purely a question of different practices under different electoral systems, the chief Soviet delegate to the Helsinki follow-up conference in Vienna, Yuriy Kashlev, said in conclusion of his press conference held in Moscow on the results of the first stage of the Vienna conference.

Views Jewish Emigration

LD232323 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Excerpts] There has been a news conference in Moscow to discuss the results of the (?first stage) of the Vienna meeting of the participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe: 33 European countries, the United States and Canada. How can the work done there be summed up? Has the meeting been advancing the cause of security and cooperation? [passage omitted]

Asked about the Soviet Union's stand on the problem of emigration of Soviet citizens, Jews included, Yuriy Kashlev answered this:

[Begin Kashlev recording in Russian with superimposed English translation] You know in (?their) time, a bit less than 300,000 and to be more precise, 270,000 Jews left the USSR. Many Germans have moved out too. In recent times a lot has been done to bring travel regulations strictly in conformity with the international commitments of the USSR and other countries. Over 11 months of this year, some 150,000 Soviet citizens have travelled to other countries to visit their relatives. Four and a half thousand Soviet citizens have left to reunite with their families and have taken permanent residence abroad. [end recording]

A question was asked about the reasons for the protracted stay of Academician Andrey Sakharov in Gorkiy and about his return to Moscow.

[Begin Kashlev recording in Russian with superimposed English translation] As far as Andrey Sakharov is concerned, [word indistinct] some activity he carried out went beyond simple disagreement. When the decision for Sakharov's residence in Gorkiy was made his breaches of the law were spoken of. There were publications which by Soviet legislation are regarded as actions against the state. There also were other unlawful actions, and then it was deemed necessary to adopt appropriate measures. Now a humane step has been taken; Andrey Sakharov has returned to Moscow, and he has got every opportunity to continue his work at the Academy of Science. [end recording]

U.S ARMS FOR IRAN DIVERTED TO AFGHAN REBELS

PM231623 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Dec 86 p 2

["Own Information" report under the rubric "Background to Events": "'Irangate': The Afghan Trail"]

[Text] Much is being said and written in the United States about U.S. arms supplies to Iran, but far less about the destination of some of these arms -- to aid the Afghan dushmans. Why? Primarily because it is a far-reaching U.S. act of subversion, not only against Afghanistan, but against the Soviet Union as well.

Afghan-Pakistani talks are continuing. A positive trend has emerged in them. And that is what is causing apprehension in Washington, particularly now that the domestic political situation has deteriorated in Pakistan. Washington does not rule out the possibility of the signing of an Afghan-Pakistani agreement. In that case Pakistan's border with Afghanistan would be closed, well and truly closed! The dushmans would be deprived of bases and aid. Reagan and his administration would like the subversive activity against Afghanistan, and against the Soviet Union for that matter, to continue, and the Soviet military contingent to be detained there, at any cost, even at the cost of continuing U.S. arms supplies to Iran, despite the scandal in Washington. Of course, this is on condition that a considerable proportion of the arms are transferred to Afghanistan.

Washington and those who are helping it in this enterprise are lavishing money on supplies. According to the U.S. press, there are $500 million in secret CIA accounts in Swiss banks, intended not only for the "contras" in Nicaragua, but also for Afghan counterrevolutionaries.

Reagan believes that the "Afghan trump card" will help him to put a lid on the "Irangate" scandal. After all, ultimately the entire procedure involving U.S. arms supplies appears to him to be a legitimate measure against the "Soviet threat." Who would risk calling it into question! The United States wants to go back to Iran and establish a foothold there. Only then would Washington want to halt or ease up in its anti-Afghan intrigues.

In November S. Hunter, deputy director of the Near East project at the Georgetown University (Washington) Center for Strategic and International Studies, wrote in the U.S. paper THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR: "Recent contacts (with Iran) suggest that the Americans and Iranians have broken the psychological barrier which was preventing them from dealing with one another... If Iran turned to the Soviet Union it would be a major strategic loss for the United States. The Russians, once they have acquired considerable influence in Iran, would have a much better chance to consolidate their position in Afghanistan..."

BOVIN VIEWS IMPLICATIONS OF IRAN-CONTRA AFFAIR

PM231209 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer A. Bovin: "Commotion in Washington"]

[Text] What is happening in official Washington can be described in various ways -- crisis, scandal, confusion. I have chosen commotion. Dal's dictionary defines the word as follows: "Fuss, chaos, trouble, turmoil, disorder, shouting, abuse, spat." They all fit.

The secret sale of weapons to Iran and the secret transfer of the money from these weapons to the Somocistas have caused a storm. The President, who, according to Senator Barry Goldwater, who thinks along almost the same lines, has "come a cropper," is defending himself, albeit in unusually limp fashion. Congress has embarked on a veritable "orgy of inquiry." Everyone suspects everyone else. Everyone is unhappy with everyone else. And every day fuel is added to the fire in which U.S. prestige is burning.

The facts of the matter are not absolutely clear as yet. But judging by what the omniscient U.S. journalists are writing, the picture is as follows.

Contacts between Washington and Tehran go back to mid-1985. According to certain data, the initiative came from pro-Western senior officers in the Iranian Army. According to other data, it was the U.S. President who gave the word by sending a letter to Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in June 1985.

In all the versions of the development of events one observes the big part played by Israel, which persistently advised R. Reagan to start "playing games" with Tehran.

Israel has its own interests. Back in the early fifties, surrounded by hostile Arabs, the then premier, David Ben-Gurion, started to cultivate relations with key non-Arab states on the perimeter of the region -- Ethiopia, Turkey, and Iran. Tel Aviv met with complete sympathy in the shah's Iran.

After the shah the situation changed dramatically. The new authorities adopted a clear-cut anti-Israeli stance. But Tel Aviv would not give up hope of a return to better times. When the Iran-Iraq war broke out, Israel, regarding Iraq as a moe dangerous enemy than Iran, started sending secret military supplies to Iran. Analysts in Tel Aviv figured that there was a sufficiently strong "moderate" faction in the Iranian leadership which would come to power sooner or later. In helping Iran, Israel was notching up points for the "post-Khomeini" period.

The actual organization of U.S.-Iranian contacts was carried out by David Kimche, then director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and former deputy chief of the "Mosad" intelligence service.

Kimche's first meeting with the U.S. President's national security adviser Robert McFarlane was, according to what is being written in Washington, in late July 1985. Kimche actually gave the Americans an Israeli intelligence agent for the purpose of ongoing contacts with Tehran. On 22 November THE NEW YORK TIMES cited the words of an unnamed senior Israeli official who described the agent as follows: "We are talking about a person who is one of the most senior ayatollahs. From our point of view, it would be criminal not to use him... We have been obtaining stupendous intelligence through this channel... We have gotten to the heart of the government. No Western government has gained access to the information we possess. Through these people we have learned a great deal about what is taking place among the ruling circles. It is clear to us that there are different groupings in that country and some are less zealous than others." It is hard to say where the facts end and the hype begins in this description. But the Americans were very keen to find people with "less zeal" and they swallowed the bait.

Together with the overall strategic idea (contacts with "moderates" in Tehran), there was discussion of the fate of hostages who had been captured in Lebanon by the pro-Iranian "Islamic Jihad" group. At first Washington tried to act through Syria, then through the Turks and Algerians. It did not work. So they decided to go direct -- to Tehran.

On 3 September 1985 Kimche reported to McFarlane that Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi had agreed to release one hostage in exchange for an aircraftload of military equipment. McFarlane had no objection. The aircraft was dispatched, but it is reported that the load was intercepted by Iranian "radicals" at the airfield in Tehran. The hostage was not released. Only after a second aircraft was sent -- 14 September -- was the priest Benjamin Weir released.

After the third aircraft the plan again misfired, so the Americans canceled further flights. There was a lull. On 4 December 1985 R. McFarlane resigned. The Israel intermediaries also changed. The team was now headed by Amiram Nir, adviser to the Israeli prime minister on matters of terrorism.

The new year brought a revival of U.S.-Iranian contacts. On 17 January 1986 R. Reagan signed a secret document which is regarded as having effectively legitimized arms sales to Iran. Now deliveries were sent by sea: from the Italian port of Talamone, to which it was convenient to ship equipment from U.S. military bases in Italy, to the Israeli port of Eilat, and from there to the Iranian port of Bandar-e 'Abbas.

A total of around 250 metric tons of freight worth 50-60 million dollars were dispatched in 1986. Catholic missionary Lawrence Jenko was released in July and California hospital administrator David Jacobsen in November.

R. McFarlane's unsuccessful trip to Tehran was perhaps the culmination of this 18-month story. A Bible signed by the President and sent to Ayatollah Khomeyni did not help. Ayatollah Reagan [as published] did not receive a copy of the Koran in return. The secret struggle in Tehran ended in defeat for the "moderates," the very people the White House was dealing with. And the secret was out. The Beirut magazine AL-SHIRA' was the first to publish information on the Americans' visit to Tehran -- it was prompted by the Iranians, of course. Evidently to protect himself, one of the "moderates," Hashemi-Rafsanjani, told the public the story of the visit. "We told them," the Majlis speaker said, "that we would not accept their gifts and we had nothing to discuss."

Then the scandal broke. Scandal number one. Scandal number two followed a little later.

It turned out that the military equipment had been sold to Iran for considerably more than its face value. Part of the difference apparently ended up in the hands of various private middlemen, but most of it went to Swiss bank accounts and from there to the Nicaraguan "contras."

U.S. Attorney General E. Meese described a typical deal -- the sale of 500 antitank missiles in August. The army transferred the weapons to the CIA, who promised to pay between $3 and 4 million (approximately $2 million less than the replacement cost). The CIA transferred the weapons to the Israeli middleman who deposited the money for the purchase and additional expenses in a Swiss bank account opened by the CIA. The CIA then paid the money to the Pentagon. Meanwhile, the middlemen sold the missiles to Iran for $19 million, which was placed in a second bank account controlled by the "contras."

As you can see, simple but tasteful...

So why the scandal, why the scandals? Surely, Americans have seen it all! Nothing would surprise them, nothing would disturb their equilibrium, you might think. But even U.S. citizens who have seen it all, congressmen and the political elite above all, do not like it when the chief executive breaks laws.

R. Reagan had no right to sanction sales of military equipment to Iran, because the law prohibits the sale of weapons to states supporting terrorism.

R. Reagan had no right to sanction the transfer of funds to the "contras," because at the time this occurred the congressional ban on such actions was still in force.

But the question remains. Reagan is a very popular president. And, everything being equal, it would have been logical to expect legislators, and many journalists, to turn a blind eye to juridical errors, particularly as rumors have been going around Congress for a long time about intrigues with Tehran and about aid to the "contras." But they were tolerated. There was silence. What made the cup overflow?

I think the President overestimated his invulnerability and went too far. He had been excused on many occasions over a long period. The deaths of the Marines in Beirut. The secret mining of ports in Nicaragua. The visit to the Bitburg cemetary in the FRG. the disinformation campaign to undermine the Libyan regime. The "forgetfulness" after Reykjavik. The endless mistakes, the inability to grasp the crux of the matter, the hypocrisy.

The President was a master at "getting out of a spin." Not for nothing was he nicknamed the "Teflon President." Just as eggs do not stick to a Teflon-coated frying pan, accusations and suspicions have not stuck to the President. But now the Teflon appears to have worn away...

At the November press conferences R. Reagan did not have his usual charm and unshakeable confidence that he was right. In connection with the transfer of funds to the "contras," he always said that he knew nothing. It was all organized by Poindexter and North, while he, the President, was not au courant... To which Senator John Glenn replied: In any event, "this is a sad comment on the President of the United States: If he was informed of the operation, he was deliberately breaking the law. And if the President did not know about it, he was not doing his duty."

Concerning the deals with Iran, the President was more candid. He did not deny that he was "au courant." But he was not exchanging weapons for hostages; he was engaged in grand strategy. Both politically and economically; Iran is important to the United States, so it was necessary to try to arrange contacts, to "start a dialogue."

On this point the President's position did not encounter any objections. Any Washington administration would appreciate the geopolitical significance of Iran and would endeavor to "retrieve" it. The charges against Reagan are not about the tasks themselves, but about the methods used to tackle them. Someone called the problem of competence Reagan's Achilles' heel. Quite so. The President and his people made a gross error in their assessment of the situation in Tehran.

If the strategic theme was the defense's main theme, the prosecution was stressing the moral aspects. What the President was doing was the ultimate in hypocrisy. After all, he had repeatedly urged everyone to observe the embargo on arms supplies to Iran. In July 1985, addressing the American association of lawyers, R. Reagan called the Khomeyni regime an "international corporation of murderers." And he was conducting negotiations with that corporation.

The President swore that he would never talk with terrorists about ransoms for hostages. But he talked. And he did a swap. An aircraft, as we have seen, for a hostage. It is easy to see that the ransoming of one hostage is an invitation to take others. And that is what happened. Three were released and three were taken.

The White House's Iranian adventure is like a magnifying glass, having made the fundamental flaws in Reagan's foreign policy clearer and more obvious. It has made intolerable things which people had grown accustomed to tolerating. "A fatal combination of ignorance and arrogance," David Broder wrote in THE WASHINGTON POST. Larry Martz in NEWSWEEK defined the situation as "the most serious crisis in Reagan's entire Presidency."

The President is trying to focus attention on the scapegoats, but in this case it is not working. Too many people have been offended and insulted by the President's actions. These actions have offended Congress, which has been the victim of deception, intrigues, and abuses of power. They have insulted their allies, who are worried and angry about the policy of "double standards" and are beginning to identify with trepidation signs of the collapse and disintegration of the present administration. They have frightened many Arab leaders who interpreted the sale of military equipment to Iran as a willingness to agree to an Iranian victory.

Occasionally one hears the following argument: The U.S. President went too far in the Soviet Union's direction at Reykjavik. So the military-industrial complex and the U.S. "ultras" have decided to teach their stooge a lesson, give him a fright. Hence the scale of the present wave of criticism.

This train of thought does not convince me. You are hardly likely to find any serious person in the United States who would seriously believe that Reagan has "pro-Soviet" sentiments. Serious people can see where the politics ends and the politicking begins, and they do not confuse the two. It is not that Reagan has stopped being Reagan. I believe that Reagan has become too much even for the United States. While calling for a restriction on the functions of the state, he has extended his own functions to an excessive degree. It is no accident that the National Security Council, which is not accountable to Congress, has become, as many people in Washington believe, the President's "kitchen cabinet." And it is no accident that the incompetence of this "cabinet," rent by contradictions and discord, has jeopardized the effectiveness of Reagan's leadership.

The results of the November elections show that the offensive against Reagan is not from the right and that the pressure on him is by no means being exerted by the military-industrial complex. The electorate's mood has clearly shifted toward the center. Here are a few comments from U.S. papers and magazines: "Reagan's Presidency has 'gone into decline'." The President has "lost the aura of invincibility." Reagan has "made a serious blunder." Reagan's "almost mystical" control over the electorate has "evaporated."

Perhaps these judgments are an example of wishful thinking overtaking the facts. But the facts themselves have a great deal to say. And the current commotion in Washington and criticism of particular foreign policy positions and actions by the President should be viewed primarily against the background of the changes taking place in public opinion in the country.

U.S. NAVY TO ADD 2 NUCLEAR-POWERED CARRIERS

LD240901 Moscow TASS in English 0741 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] Tokyo December 24 TASS -- In the Pentagon, it has been decided to build two new nuclear-powered aircraft carriers for the U.S. Navy, a correspondent of the KYODO Tsushin News Agency reports from Washington. It is planned that one of the carriers will be made part of the U.S. fleet in the Pacific Ocean and will take the place of attack aircraft carrier Midway based at the Japanese port of Yokosuka in the second half of the 1990's.

IZVESTIYA REACTS TO IRANIAN 'ANTI-SOVIET' REMARKS

PM231941 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 5

[A. Ostalskiy article: "Strange Coincidence"]

[Text] It is evident from reports coming in from Iran that many high-ranking officials of that state are continuing to make statements unfriendly toward our country. They are publicly speaking of the USSR's allegedly "oppressive" policy and trying to impute to the Soviet Union aspirations and plans that are hostile to Iran. It is noteworthy that an attempt to "equate" the USSR and the United States in the eyes of ordinary Iranians and to put their policies toward Iran on a par can be clearly discerned in many statements.

Why has it been found necessary to distort the facts? It is well known that the Soviet Union has always sought good-neighborly relations with Iran, proving this both in words and in deeds. The USSR viewed with sympathy the Iranian people's liberation struggle, vigorously and resolutely supported the 1979 anti-Shah revolution, and helped it to withstand military blackmail, hostile campaigns, and the blockade.

One Iranian leader recently called on the great powers to treat Iran "fairly, in a spirit of equality, and humanely." A legitimate demand! But so far as the Soviet Union is concerned, the appeal is clearly misdirected -- that formula is already totally implemented in the USSR's policy regarding its southern neighbor. However, this certainly cannot be said of the United States.

The history of recent U.S.-Iranian relations offers many instances of unfairness, unconcealed political and military interference, and diktat on the part of the United States. Washington did not shrink from organizing military coups, murders, and massive repression in order to preserve the shah's tyranny, which the Iranians hated. The United States is continuing a similar "strong-arm" policy now. THE WASHINGTON POST has disclosed that the CIA is financing the activity of antigovernment Iranian organizations. A. Madani, former commander of the Iranian Navy, recently admitted that he had received money from the United States in order to wage a struggle against the Khomeyni regime. There are many other reports regarding the active U.S. subversion campaign against Iran, which continues to this day.

Washington's position was frankly formulated by U.S. Vice President G. Bush, who publicly stated 3 weeks ago: "American hearts are full of quite understandable hostility, indeed, hatred toward Khomeyni's Iran. I feel the same way myself. So does the President."

So on the USSR's part there is respect for Iran's sovereignty and independence, noninterference in its internal affairs, and honest, equal cooperation on a mutually advantageous basis, while on the United States' part there is frank hatred, crude pressure, blackmail, interference, and other "dirty tricks." Can there be any question of "equality" between the Soviet and U.S. approaches?

One cannot help noticing that the hostile attacks on the Soviet Union intensified in Iran after the major political scandal over secret military deliveries to Iran erupted in Washington. When it became clear that it would not get away with the latest adventure, unlike previous ones, and when the President's popularity began to decline and many of his supporters abandoned the sinking ship, Washington resorted to its favorite magic spell. The talk, of course, was of a "Soviet threat" to Iran. The "story" was obligingly picked up by the right-wing press, which dusted off the old fairytales about "Russia's desire to gain access to warm seas," "expansionist schemes" regarding the Middle East, and so forth. [paragraph continues]

It would have been astonishing if, finding itself in such a difficult position, the U.S. Administration had not tried to invoke chauvinist prejudices inside its own country and allied "solidarity." But what a strange coincidence -- certain remarks by Iranian officials seem to be "in unison" with Washington's anti-Soviet rhetoric.

The question is inescapable: Why did the U.S. President "get over" his "hatred" and send weapons to Iran? "Irangate" has shown that the Reagan administration is prepared to surrender many of its officially proclaimed "principles" (to say nothing of feelings) for the sake of attempting to open channels for restoring U.S. influence in that country and steering its policy in an anti-Soviet direction. After all, anti-Sovietism -- as history has repeatedly shown -- leads ultimately to the abandonment of anti-imperialist positions, to the weakening of national independence, and sooner or later to subordination to Western influence. There can be no doubt that the Iranian officials' hostile attacks on our country are now being greeted with great satisfaction in Washington and are arousing far-reaching hopes in some quarters...

In most cases the grounds for attacks on the USSR in Tehran are provided by the situation surrounding Afghanistan and the internationalist assistance that the Soviet Union is providing to that country's people. Tehran either cannot or will not understand the true reason for the tension surrounding the DRA. After all, if you consider this issue in an unbiased way, it becomes clear that the threat to Afghanistan's security and sovereignty arose and still persists as a result of foreign, and above all, U.S. interference. This threat is what compelled the DRA Government to turn to the USSR for help.

As is well known, Iran too made its "contribution" to exacerbating the situation; and it actually began to actively interfere in that neighboring country's internal affairs before the USSR sent the limited troop contingent there at the Afghan Government's request. And the money from the sale of U.S. weapons to Iran went not only to the Nicaraguan "contras" but also to the dushman gangs that are used to wage the undeclared war against the DRA.

Thus in its actions regarding Afghanistan, Iran, deliberately or otherwise, is going hand in hand with the "Great Satan," as the United States is termed in Iran. Yet Iranians should know better than anyone what objectives Washington is pursuing in the region and what its "patronage" means.

It is clear that the anti-Soviet remarks of high-ranking Iranian figures are at variance with their own statements that Iran desires the development of normal relations with the USSR. As for the Soviet Union, its position remains precise and clear: We are in favor of genuine good-neighborliness and equal and mutually advantageous cooperation with Iran in the interests of both countries and peace and security in the region.

TUDEH PARTY FIRST SECRETARY ON U.S. ARMS TO IRAN

NC231113 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 22 Dec 86

[Remarks by 'Ali Khavari, first secretary of the Tudeh Party Central Committee -- recorded; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] What are referred to today as secret contacts between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran began to grow in a way that was very favorable for imperialism. Therefore, this cannot be described as a fleeting incident, a political mistake, or an accident. The leaders turned their backs on the revolution and thus opened the way for U.S. imperialism to recoup its losses in Iran. [passage omitted]

For U.S. imperialism, the recent relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran were not limited to the sale of arms and the release of hostages. U.S. imperialism is interested in prolonging the Iran-Iraq war because it sees that there are great military, political, and economic benefits to be gained from it. The weakening of the two anti-imperialist nations of Iran and Iraq and the horrific human and material losses suffered by both sides are the chief advantages obtained by the U.S. imperialists and their Zionist allies in the region. The sale of arms in return for the release of hostages should be seen from the angle of a political game, involving U.S. imperialism's abominable intentions of regaining its lost position in Iran.

It is interesting to note THE WASHINGTON POST's report that the current phase of relations between the White House and Iran was preceded by cooperation between the CIA and the Islamic Republic's intelligence organs. According to this newspaper, the CIA provided the Islamic Republic with a list of Tudeh Party activists, leading to the execution of 200 of them and to the banning of the party. It was not divine inspiration or blessing, but a fabricated file on the Tudeh Party that was set before the regime as an easily digested dish. The regime had no legal reason to persecute Iran's Tudeh Party. [passage omitted]

Our compatriots, who carried out a united and historic uprising for the sake of freedom, independence, and social justice, and inflicted a heavy blow on imperialism and domestic reaction, now see that not only do they not have freedom and social justice, but their very independence is threatened. They ask themselves why and how the Islamic Republic's leaders retreated from their earlier positions. How could Ayatollah Khomeyni make remarks describing relations between the United States and Iran as a relationship between cat and mouse, or stating that we should go into mourning on the day that the United States praises us? The leaders have now gone so far as to say that if the United States comes to its senses, it will not be a problem to establish relations with it.

The fact that U.S. imperialism is selling arms to the Islamic Republic's leaders for the protraction of the bloody and destructive war shows the endless greed of these merchants of death for profits from this war that is so calamitous for Iraq and Iran. Our compatriots have a different view of correct and just foreign relations. As they see it, the latter are exemplified by the ties that exist between the world's anti-imperialist countries.

The grounds, the record, the length of the secret talks, and their content, show that these dealings between the two countries were not an end in themselves, but a means of establishing unequal relations, such as were rejected by the February revolution.

DOBRYNIN, ALGERIAN ENVOY DISCUSS TIES

LD171844 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 17 Dec 86

[Text] Moscow December 17 TASS -- Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received Abdellah Feddal, ambassador of the Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic to the USSR and member of the Central Committee of the Party National Liberation Front, at the latter's request. During the friendly talk, the sides discussed some questions of Soviet-Algerian relations and the situation in North Africa and the Middle East.

NICARAGUAN NEWS CONFERENCE WITH 'U.S. SPY' NOTED

LD231337 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 23 Dec 86

[Text] Managua December 23 TASS -- A press conference involving U.S. spy Sam Hall detained by Nicaragua's security agencies was held in Managua on Monday. At the moment of his arrest Hall had in possession documents, maps of military facilities, airfields and location of Sandinist People's Army units, which later were shown to journalists.

The spy admitted that the military facilities the information about which he was trying to get were to become the targets of terrorist and subversive acts. He also told pressmen that the goal of his trip to Nicaragua was to collect secret information on major military facilities, oil storages, and airfields.

Hall said that for several years he had worked as a U.S. military adviser at contras bases in Honduras and taken part in raids into Nicaraguan territory.

CUBA ASSISTED ON FIRST ATOMIC POWER PLANT

LD231450 Moscow TASS in English 1248 23 Dec 86

[Text] Juragua (Cuba) December 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Kanishchev reports:

The first Cuban atomic power station is being built here with Soviet technical assistance. The builders have begun installation work. The first generating unit is going into operation in 1990 and the second two years later. The second stage of the plant, which will consist, like the first of two 440 megawatt generating units, is being designed.

When the four turbines of the Juragua atomic power station reach their design capacity, power supply to the Cuban economy will be boosted by over 60 per cent. The needs of the country's industrialisation and agriculture growth programmes will be met in full. Moreover, the plant will save more than one million tons of oil a year.

Rodrigo Ortis, a deputy minister of the basic industries of Cuba, has said in a TASS interview that a close-knit team of Cuban and Soviet engineers, technicians and workers took shape at the construction project. Good organization and construction work makes it possible to meet plan targets on time and to achieve excellent quality. The project's chief engineer Eduardo Menendez said for his part that joint work with Soviet specialists had become for Cuban power workers a good school of occupational skills and conscientious attitude to work.

NEW VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

PM230927 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Eduardo Soto Alvarez, ambassador of the Republic of Venezuela to the USSR, arrived in Moscow 17 December.

Committee, received Abdellah Feddal, ambassador of the Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic to the USSR and member of the Central Committee of the Party National Liberation Front, at the latter's request. During the friendly talk, the sides discussed some questions of Soviet-Algerian relations and the situation in North Africa and the Middle East.

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES UKRAINIAN CP CC PLENUM

AU191345 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 9 Dec 86 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report on speech delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Polithuro member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, at the 8 December 1986 plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee -- passages between slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] Comrades: The present plenum is discussing one of the republic's key agricultural tasks -- the task of increasing the production in grain. There is no need to prove that its practical accomplishment is of enormous general economic and political importance.

Aware of its responsibility before the party and the people for implementing the Food Program, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Commitee, the republic's government, and local party, administrative, and economic organs were and are working to intensify grain farming. Concrete measures to increase productivity and stability were drawn up at the October 1982 plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, and at the 1984 meeting of the republic's aktivists. In the current year, the Central Committee Politburo has approved the measures worked out at kolkhozes and sovkhozes, in rayons and oblasts to increase grain production and procurements in the current 5-year period.

Today it is not out of place to emphasize once again that /owing to the consistent pursuit of the party's agrarian policy, a great production and cadre potential has been created in agriculture, and a great deal has also been done to reform the countryside socially./

In the last 5-year period, the procurements of potatoes, vegetables, meat, milk, and some other produce increased. On the whole, foodstuff supplies to the population improved.

As the analysis shows, the measures taken in grain farming have permitted us to somewhat reduce the effects of the unfavorable weather conditions. However, the efforts to achieve the required yields and stability in grain production failed. In the past 5-year period, the republic's farms in their deliveries to the state fell short of the target by a significant amount of grain.

The causes of this, of course, were disputable. But the main thing was that former agricultural organs -- and the present Ukrainian State Agroindustrial Committee -- a number of obkoms and oblispolkoms were unsatisfactory in organizing the implementation of the measures drawn up, and did not bring persons responsible for this to real account. /And the analysis and conclusions set forth in the decision of the CPSU Central Committee are absolutely right./ The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, the republic's Council of Ministers, party obkoms, raykoms, oblispolkoms, rayispolkoms, agroindustrial committees and associations have failed to concentrate the efforts of kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders and specialists, of scientific institutions, party, administrative and economic organs on settling pressing problems in grain production and in farming as a whole, and have failed to mobilize the wide masses for this purpose.

The CPSU Central Committee has rightly pointed out that the republic's party and administrative organs were inadmissibly slow in restructuring the leadership of the agroindustrial complex. Some leading functionaries, including those at the republic level, are not critical in assessing the state of affairs, put up with serious shortcomings in utilizing land, material and labor resources, and with infringements of technological discipline.

It is also to be admitted that the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee's Secretariat and departments have been insufficiently purposeful, consistent, and persistent in exerting control over the way the adopted decisions were implemented. However, personal responsibility must exist under any collective leadership. Speaking concretely, those bearing responsibility for the shortfall in grain growing and in farming as a whole are primarily Comrade I. A. Mozgovoy, Central Committee secretary, and Comrade Yu.A. Kolomiyets, Council of Ministers first deputy chairman. The speakers rightfully criticized the Ukrainian Council of Ministers, Gosplan, and other organs bearing responsibility for the comprehensive and proportional development of the republic's economy.

The CPSU Central Committee decision and the speeches delivered at the present plenum have also shown shortfalls and omissions in the activity of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and obkoms. They apply primarily to the work performed by the republic's party committees in selecting and distributing cadres, particularly in the organs of the agroindustrial complex, of control over implementation, and of organizational and political work in labor collectives. These and other critical remarks were right, and the necessary measures will be taken in response to them. All the questions raised and the concrete proposals made will be closely examined.

Above all, V.V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, it is essential /to increase at all levels responsibility for implementing the adopted decisions, and to strengthen executive discipline./ It is always to be borne in mind that the national economic plan, approved by the Central Committee and confirmed by a session of the Supreme Soviet, has the force of a law and is compulsory.

Since the time when a group of CPSU Central Committee's responsible functionaires and specialists of all-union organs thoroughly examined the situation in the republic's grain farming, we have done something. This was noted in the report and in the speeches. But, let me repeat, it was just /a little./ The brunt of the work still lies ahead.

/This work is to be based on the CPSU Central Committee's conclusions and recommendations, as well as on the decision which will be adopted by this plenum./ Only when all the planned measures are implemented on schedule and fully, and when the shortcomings are resolutely eliminated, will there be a chance, by the end of the 5-year period, to bring the overall yield of grain to 52-54 million metric tons. Only then will the republic be able to fulfill under guarantee the plans for procurements, to supply the population with grain products, and to meet the growing stockbreeding needs for concentrated fodder. In line with the 5-year plan, as early as in 1987 the republic must bring in 50.5 million metric tons of grain and sell to the state 17.5 million metric tons.

If we bear in mind the fact that, in a number of oblasts, the things in winter crop farming are not quite all right, this task is complex. In order to accomplish it, initiative, persistence, purposefulness, and responsibility are needed at all levels.

The Ukrainian State Agroindustrial Committee, along with party obkoms and oblispolkoms, must examine the situation at each farm, and must take all steps necessary to ensure that the planned yield is brought in.

/It is essential to use the existing potential at full capacity, to rely in earnest on science and advanced experience, and to engage all laborers of the agroindustrial complex in accomplishing this responsible task./

Unfortunately, this is precisely the attitude that many party commmittees, administrative and economic organs still obviously lack.

As is known, at the 27th Ukrainian Communist Party Congress a number of southern oblasts were criticized for having diminished overall yields, particularly of wheat. The results of the current year show that, with the exception of Kherson Oblast, leaders of these oblasts have failed to draw appropriate conclusions from the criticism. In the other oblasts, there have been no significant changes for the better. Odessa Oblast has yielded its positions in a particularly serious way. Notwithstanding the fact that in the 3 years of the 5-year period the supplies of mineral fertilizers to the oblast and the area of irrigated lands trebled, the oblast's average annual production of grain shrank by nearly 500,000 metric tons. In the volume of overall yields, the oblast slipped down from the republic's first to the fourth place, and in per-hectare yields, from the second to the 21st place.

In the current year, the oblast fell short of the target by one-fourth of the planned amount of grain, by 50 percent of sugar beets, and by a significant amount of sunflower seeds and potatoes. Having 222,000 hectares of irrigated lands, the oblast does not meet its own needs even for cabbages, carrots, onions, and other vegetables.

What explains this fact is first of all the poor -- and at times incompetent -- leadership in the agroindustrial complex. The party obkom, the oblispolkom, and the oblast agroindustrial committee do not pursue a clear line in developing grain farming. For the most part, the oblast only pays lip service to the efforts to raise efficiency in the field. The soil protecting system of farming with the application of tilling methods conserving moisture in the soil is being introduced, as it were, "of its own slow accord."

For all that, V.V. Shcherbitskiy pointed out, we have the right to bring to the most severe account Comrade M.G. Galich, obkom secretary and Comrade I.Ya. Sichuk, oblispolkom chairman, who have been responsible for this sector of work for a number of years. Apparently, also the obkom bureau and Comrade A.P. Nochevkin, first secretary, personally have been unable to concentrate the efforts of party, administrative, and economic organs on the sector which needs them.

One has the impression that the oblast's failure in grain production has disturbed neither the State Agroindustrial Committee, nor the Central Committee departments, nor the Affairs Administration of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers, who have actually put up with the situation prevailing in grain farming in Odessa and a number of other southern oblasts. Many main committees and administrations of the State Agroindustrial Committee continue to work in an uncoordinated way and to copy the principles and methods of the previous ministries. They do not get down to the grass roots, and for this reason do not have a real influence on the state of affairs.

I hope, the speaker emphasized, the leaders of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast (Comrades V.G. Boyko and Yu.P. Babich); of Nikolayev Oblast (comrades L.G. Shiryayev and V.I. Ilyin): of Zaporozhye Oblast (Comrades A.P. Sazonov and P.I. Moskalkov): of Voroshilovgrad Oblast (Comrades B.T. Goncharenko and R.O. Zverev); of Kirovograd Oblast (Comrades N.I. Samilyk and V.I. Zheliba); and of some other oblasts, are also aware of their responsibility for the production of grain.

The objective of the organizational and political measures taken to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Congresses has been to bring the per-hectare grain yields in the Steppe Zone to 32-33 quintals; in the mixed Steppe-Forest Zone, to 34-35 quintals; and in the Forest Zone, to 29-30 quintals. The ways to accomplish these tasks have already been discussed today. For this reason I would only like to touch upon the sectors of work on which the main attention and forces have to be concentrated.

In his report, Comrade A.P. Lyashko noted that, to raise the production of grain it was of decisive importance to increase the general efficiency of farming and returns from intensive technologies, and to bring the output of corn grain to 10-12 million metric tons. Quite obviously, all these reserves can only be put into effect when /the role and responsibility of all cadres, and first of all specialists, increase./ The number of agronomists, engineers, and technicians alone employed at kolkhozes, sovkhozes, agricultural organs, and scientific institutions, that is the number of those who should be in direct charge of land, has exceeded 200,000. This is an enormous force, and it must produce adequate returns. After all, there are also specialists (and their number, unfortunately, is quite significant) who are not interested in any innovations, who are not abreast of life, and who have been accustomed to work only on command.

Or let us take another issue. In recent years, the per-hectare and overall yields of our basic food crop, winter wheat, have significantly dropped in the republic. Each year, this crop has been perishing and resown on significant areas. And what mattered in this respect were not only the weather conditions. Many people have simply put up with this situation. Nobody actually blamed specialists for that.

For example, the soil and weather conditions in Vinnitsa Oblast rank among the republics best. However, in the last 5-year period the oblast's per-hectare and overall yields of gain went steeply down, and the blast fell short of the target by more than 1 million metric tons of grain. The analysis shows that the main cause of such a drop lay in the fact that an average of about one-third of winter crops used to be resowed in the oblast each year. And nobody was brought to account for this.

Comrade A.I. Lutsenko, at present chairing the oblast agroindustrial committee, has been in charge of the oblast's agriculture for more than a decade. But even this stretch of time proved to be for him too short to acquaint himself with the best kolkhoz and sovkhoz agronomists in the oblast fodder production has been neglected, the situation in beet farming has steeply deteriorated, and the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat has severely punished Comrade A.I. Lutsenko for the shortcomings incurred in the development of livestock breeding.

It is obvious that, for the obkom bureau, Comrade L.I. Krovoruchko, and the Ukrainian State Agroindustrial Committee, the time has come to draw from this appropriate conclusions.

The speaker went on by bringing to severe task Comrade A.G. Denisenko, deputy chairman of the republic's State Agroindustrial Committee, who has been in charge of grain farming and seed breeding for many years. He, personally, and the committee's leadership have to resolve whether he is able to remedy the situation. This is the way dictated by life itself to pose the question.

/The slogan "Cadres resolve everything!" has now been filled with a new content, and the importance of the human factor in the practical pursuit of the party line aimed at acceleration has increased in an immeasurable manner./

/For this reason work among people has to be carried out in such a way, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev particularly emphasized during his meetings and conversations in Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays, that not only a leader or a specialist, but also each rank-and-file laborer feel his or her responsibility for the results of the collective's work and that aspire to contribute his or her maximum part in the common enterprise./

We must engage in earnest in improving labor organization and payments, and in reducing the administrative and management personnel. It is essential to second the republic's Kolkhoz Council which has recently recommended that the administrative apparatus of the kolkhozes be cut by 19 percent. What matters is to comply with these recommendations in the field in a businesslike manner.

At the same time, it is essential to set properly about applying the forms of labor organization and motivation as proven in practice as /brigade, family, and individual contracting on the basis of authentic economic accountancy./

In 1985, the share of collectives under contract to the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes amounted to 39 percent of the total work force, and these collectives accounted for 54 percent of the total gross production. In plant growing, the labor productivity of contracted collectives was 1.6 times higher, and in stockbreeding, 1.3 times.

However, contracting has obviously been underestimated in a number of oblasts, particularly in Volyn, Dnepropetrovsk, and Zaporozhye Oblasts. In many cases, collectives switch over to contracting only in a formal way, and for this reason the contract does not produce due effect.

In 1987, all kolkhoz and sovkhoz subunits should, for the most part, switch over to the contracting principles. And preparations for this must already be made now. It is essential to more vigorously promote integral-process contracting which also encompasses the leading staff and specialists, as well as the shop form of production organization.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy went on by stressing that, under the present conditions, no economic branch, including agriculture, is able to rise to a higher step of scientific-technological process, unless it is based on /science./ But for this purpose science itself must move forward.

How can one count on a success if, for example, the Ukrainian Irrigation Farming Institute under it director Comrade V.I. Ostapov has, for 15 years running, provided kolkhozes and sovkhozes practically with no new wheat varieties or corn hybrids? The area of selected grain crop varieties amounts only to 11 percent of the total area belonging to the V.Ya. Yuryev Plant Growing, Selection, and Genetics Institute, renowned in the past, now headed by Comrade B.P. Guryev. In other words, scientific collectives are frequently idle.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has repeatedly called the attention of Comrade G.A. Bogdanov, board chairman of the Southern Branch of the All-Union Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences, to the big shortcomings in the branch's work. Time passes, but there have been no real changes for the better. Of course, the time has come to reinforce the leadership of this important sector.

The accomplishment of the entire series of tasks discussed today, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary then said, largely depends on our efficiency on restructuring /organizational and political work./

More than 500,000 communists are now engaged in agriculture. A large party collective exists practically at each kolkhoz and sovkhoz. However, their influence on developing production is still frequently poor. Many party organizations are unable to concentrate on the main things, to assess the results sharply and in aderence to principle, and to mobilize people to accomplish the outstanding tasks.

This is the case mainly because some party raykoms and gorkoms continue to substitute for administrative and economic organs, seem to be unable to give up the old and obsolete style and methods of work, continue to give commands, to issue many decisions and measures, and to require many data. Naturally enough, under these circumstances, party committees have neither time nor strength left for organizational and political work directly in labor collectives. Such raykoms are, as a rule, only superficially familiar with the actual situation, and poorly work among leading cadres. This, in particular, has been revealed by functionaries of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee who checked into the progress made by Volyn, Crimean, Dnepropetrovsk, Rovno, Kharkov, Khmelnitskiy, and Cherkassy Oblast party committees in restructuring.

While bearing in mind the outstanding tasks, it is now particularly important to attend to each lagging farm concretely and in earnest. This task has been set repeatedly. However, in accordance with data published by the Central Statistical Administration, also the 1985 per-hectare grain yields fell below the 20-quintal mark in a significant part of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. In Rovno and Sumy Oblasts, the number of such farms is particularly large. If these farms increased their yields to the republic's average, we would obtain an addition of nearly 3 million metric tons of grain.

At the same time, in the republic there are exemplary farms. More than 300 kolkhozes are year by year and irrespective of weather conditions obtaining 40 or more quintals of grain per hectare. Such farms exist in each zone and in each oblast, but their experience is being spread simply poorly.

The Ukrainian State Agroindustrial Committee and its local organs must purposefully attend to each lagging collective, must more vigorously promote the economic methods of farming, and most more rapidly switch kolkhozes and sovkhozes over to a basis of self-paying and self-financing.

Party obkoms and raykoms, oblispolkoms and rayispolkoms are, on their part, expected in the nearest future to critically examine the situation in grain production and in farming, and to scrutinize the work performed by party committees, kolkhoz and sovkhoz party organizations, and organs of the agroindustrial complex to raise labor productivity to strengthen farms economically, and to apply the achievements of science and advanced experience.

Thus the tasks for developing grain farming in the entire agroindustrial complex are clear. They are difficult and painstaking. But the republic possesses a production base, the necessary cadres, and finally an instructive experience. And all that has to be used sensibly to increase fertility and obtain the planned yields of grain.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy then touched upon /some tasks for developing the republic's national economy, and upon some questions concerning restructuring and acceleration,/ which must be constantly in the center of attention. Guided by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee is thorough and critical in analyzing the situation in branches, oblasts, in individual cities and rayons. It gives practical assistance in the field, and increases the responsibility of cadres for the matter at hand. Since the 27th congress, the Central Committee has discussed reports delivered by 12 obkoms, 3 gorkoms, 2 oblispolkoms and 4 ministries and departments.

The thorough examination of the situation in the field shows that, at all levels, cadres have begun to work more enterprisingly, with more initiative, efficiency, and persistence. Party, state, and labor discipline is being consolidated.

/It is quite obvious that the policy aimed by the party at restructuring and acceleration has already positively affected the situation in the economy and in other spheres. This has been achieved first of all by improving the general social atmosphere and by invigorating the masses of the working people./

Even now one can say that, in the most important indexes, the republic will fulfill the 1986 plan and will reach the annual average of the 5-year tasks. This applies to the growth rates of the national income, and to tasks for profits and for reducing the prime costs of industrial production. In the 11 months of the current year, the rates of increasing production and labor productivity in industry significantly exceeded the annual plan and amounted to 4.4 percent.

Heavy industry has been working better than in previous years. The plans for coal mining, for the extraction of coal, oil, natural gas, iron and manganese ore, for the production of pig iron, steel, and rolled stock are being overfulfilled. The targets for putting into service production capacities of importance, houses, children's and medical establishments, general education and vocational-technical schools are being met. All kinds of transport are abreast of the plans for hauling. Consistent measures are being taken to raise the people's prosperity. In agriculture, the volumes of procured meat, milk, grain, sunflower seeds, potatoes, vegetables, and a number of other produce have risen.

/However, the positive trends in socioeconomic development still have not stabilized, many tasks have not been accomplished, and a radical turn in the activity of party, administrative, and economic organs still has not been made. For this reason, of course, there are no grounds for complacency./

In the republic, there are still many industrial enterprises and building organizations working at a loss. In Vinnitsa Oblast, for example, the share of unprofitable enterprises amounts to one-fifth. In the republic, there are still many enterprises falling short of the plan for the sales of products, for contracted supplies, for increasing labor productivity, for profits and the reduction of prime costs.

Party, administrative, and economic organs at all levels are expected to thoroughly analyze the results of their work, to draw the right conclusions from them, and to take practical steps to overcome the lag wherever it has been incurred, and to find additional reserves for economic development.

The entire work carried out to improve the quality of products is to be kept under constant control It is essential always to keep in mind that quality in a wide sense of the word improves in step with the general development of the national economy.

As is known, the recent session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet approved the republic's 1987 plan for economic and social development and the budget. The rates and proportions envisaged by the plan are in line with the 5-year targets, and, in many indexes, even exceed the latter. Another peculiarity of the plan consists in its emphasized social purposefulness. On the whole, both the plan and the budget are intense, but feasible and within our powers.

Naturally enough, all must work hard and purposefully to translate them into reality.

The success in fulfilling the 1987 and 5-year plans decisively depends on /better use of the existing production potential./ After all, in accordance with the data published by the Ukrainian Central Statististical Administration, more than 50 percent of industrial facilities put into operation in the last decade still have not reached the planned indexes. The above-norm stocks of material values are still large, and much equipment is idle for a long time. Naturally, this abnormal situation has to be remedied in the first place.

Following the example set in Leningrad and Kharkov, enterprises have to improve and hasten their efforts to /switch over to 2- and 3- shift operations./ In this respect, there are quite a few omissions, including in Kharkov.

Significantly more pains are to be taken to make use of deep reserves in order to hasten economic development. These reserves lie in the wide application of /the achievements of scientific-technological progress./

V.V. Shcherbitskiy pointed out that, in line with the decision of the 27th Ukrainian Communist Party Congress, by the end of the 5-year period the economic effect of applied scientific elaborations should be brought to R4.5-5 billion annually. Work in this direction has been launched, but its scope is still below the existing possibilities. In particular, the utmost is to be done to obtain in the coming year a maximum return from implementing special purpose scientific-technological programs.

No proper use has been made yet of a reserve as important as inventing and rationalizing whose annual effect has to be brought to R1.8-2 billion. After all, each year tens of thousands of rationalizing proposals and patented inventions in the republic, including many at the enterprises of the State Agroindustrial Committee, remain unutilized.

State and economic organs, scientific organizations and public organizations are expected to unite and better coordinate their efforts to widely engage the working people, and particularly youths, in technical creativity. The Ukrainian Council of Ministers and Trade Union Council have to hasten their work on the "Invention and Rationalization-90" program, have to encourage many innovators in their initiative and to organize socialist competitions, to meet the 2-year targets set under the 5-year plan for obtaining the economic effect of inventions and rationalizing proposals by the 70th Anniversary of the Great October.

Let me now emphasize once again the need to take the whole packet of measures provided for by the Social Program. Certainly, the most important task is to commission on schedule houses and other facilities for sociocultural purposes. But notwithstanding the acute needs, even in the current year capital investments for housing construction have not been fully utilized in a number of oblasts, primarily in Kirovograd, Kherson, and Cherkassy Oblasts. The situation in cooperative construction is even worse.

The 1987 plan for putting houses into service is to be exceeded by 2 million square meters of housing space.

Capital investments allocated by the state for the construction of cultural and medical establishments will significantly increase.

Party obkoms and oblispolkoms must tighten control over the progress made in the construction of all facilities in the social sphere and in implementing the program for social reforms in the countryside.

One of the most topical tasks for the coming year will be to further improve the supplies of foodstuffs, above all of meat and dairy products, to the population. As is known, as of 1987 the volumes of procurements are to be planned by oblasts. The republic only draws up for them plans for deliveries to union and republic resources. In this way, oblasts bear full responsibility for supplies to the population. But this does not mean at all that the Gosplan and the State Agroindustrial Committee have to stand aside. They are obligated to control the situation in the field and, if need be, to effectively intervene, and must under no circumstances permit a decline in the market resources.

Next year, the utmost has to be done to keep the volumes of procured meat and milk increasing at least at the rate of the current year.

For this reason party obkoms and oblispolkoms are expected to organize matters in such a way that additional measures be mapped out at kolkhozes and sovkhozes, primarily at the front-ranking ones, to step up the production and procurements of stockbreeding produce, and to exceed the planned indexes. These measures must be approved and be kept under constant control by party committees and bureaus of basic party organizations, as well as by party raykoms and obkoms.

It is important also to make better use of the possibilities of private farms run by the population. This applies in particular to Vinnitsa, Kharkov, and Khmelnitskiy Oblasts, whose population, in the past 5-year period, significantly reduced the private production of meat and milk. And of course, Volyn and Lvov Oblasts are absolutely wrong to envisage in their plans the reduction, by the end of the 5-year period, of meat production at private holdings by 10-11 percent. This will have to be corrected.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy went on by touching upon the task to improve coverage in kind for the commodity turnover plan. An additional production of high-quality consumer goods needed by the population has to be organized in all oblasts, ministries, departments, and at each enterprise even with the slightest possibilities for this. To cut a long story short, the demand of life is to move more quickly in the sector whose importance grows ever more.

The successful completion of the current year and a good start in the next one largely depend on the way we organize our work under the winter conditions. This reminder has to be made because we happened to have years when our losses were heavy and irreparable. There are difficulties even now. From Zaporozhye, Dnepropetrovsk, Ivano-Rankovsk, and some other oblasts there have been complaints about the shortage of heat and water, about irregularities in city transport and consumer services. Things must be put in order everywhere. This is the first duty of executive committees of the soviets of people's deputies.

We will be able to accomplish the outstanding tasks, V.V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, only when people are really willing to cooperate. All means of organization and political work must now be used to develop massive socialist competitions in honor of the 70th anniversary of the Great October, and to encouage intense socialist pledges and counterplans, particularly in branches supplying raw materials.

/The accountability and election campaign, which was the first to be held since the party congress and which has been completed recently in basic party organizations, showed that the Communists have received the need to restructure wholeheartedly and have been criticial in assessing the situation./

Party committees are expected to pay more attention to numerically small organizations, examine each proposal and remark made at the meetings, and take them into account in their work.

The facts referred to at the present plenum attest to the need to select and distribute cadres in a more purposeful manner, and to strengthen the cadre reserve at all levels with people capable of accomplishing new responsible tasks.

/The domestic political activity of our party and state is closely coupled with the accomplishment of tasks for acceleration./ In this context, the speaker noted two points.

/Point one./ Following the Reykjavik Soviet-American meeting, a qualitatively new situation has emerged in the world. The efforts of the CPSU and the Soviet Union have met with a growing support on the part of the international public and of political circles in various countries.

Well, and precisely when historic chances have emerged to improve the internatioal situation, the U.S. Administration resolved to bury the provisional 1972 agreement and the 1979 SALT Treaty, thus striking a blow to the structure of basic accords in the field of limiting strategic arms, a structure created over 15 years.

In its statement, the Soviet Government had its principled and convincing say about this major error and provocations committed by the U.S. Administration, about the attempt to check the trend toward relaxing international tension.

The need to invigorate the efforts to make a progress in limiting arms, and the practical ways of and prospects for settling a number of present urgent problems were convincingly explained by M.S. Gorbachev during his visit to India, a visit that had a wide response all over the world. In our work among people, the highly important CPSU Central Committee documents concerning foreign political issues should always be kept n the center of attention.

/Point two/. The mechanism of cooperation among the countries of socialism is now being actively perfected. This was the purpose of the recent meeting held in Moscow by the leaders of the fraternal parties in CEMA member countries, and of the routine session of the CEMA Council which took place in Bucharest before. In particular, it is known that favorable conditions are now being created for developing direct links and close production and scientific-technological cooperation among enterprises and associations in the countries of the socialist community.

This undertaking is, of course, complex and responsible. For this reason, for all party and economic organs and for labor collectives it is a matter of paramount importance to accomplish export supplies on time, as well as tasks connected with implementing the comprehensive program for scientific-technoloical progress in CEMA member-states.

It is perfectly evident that our country's foreign political positions and power are firmly based on the creative energies of the people. Thus to make the labor of the Soviet people even more productive, to observe the strictest discipline and good organization everywhere, and to manifest initiative, political consciousness and vigilance are the main requirements dictated both by domestic and by international factors.

At the end V.V. Scherbitskiy said:

We have begun a great and difficult, but pressing undertaking: By accelerating scientific-technological progress and making use of new economic management methods, we aim to raise the effectiveness of communal production, and on the basis of changing the style and methods of work, and of wide democratization and publicity, to ensure a qualitative renewal in all spheres of life in our society. /The party and the people fully support this policy of the CPSU Central Committee, and they actively help pursue this policy. The ways to accomplish the tasks have been determined. The first steps have already been taken. These steps inspire hopes and confidence./

But the main work still lies ahead. And it is obvious, comrades, that everyone has to set about the matter more thoroughly, more firmly -- as they say -- with both hands and without wasting time.

CPSU CC HITS 'UNCRITICAL' PERM OBLAST LEADERS

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[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has heard a report on the work of the Perm Party Obkom. The resolution adopted notes that the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the course of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development were received with approval in the oblast's party organizations and in all collectives and generated a political and labor upsurge among the people. The industrial output and labor productivity growth rates achieved since the beginning of the year exceed the targets for the first year of the 5-year plan. The plan for grain sales to the state was fulfilled and purchase of livestock products have increased.

However, as an investigation and analysis of work have shown, the oblast party organization is still underutilizing the favorable opportunities afforded since the congress for profound qualitative changes in economic and social life.

The party obkom is proving slow to translate the general party directives into practical action and is not doing enough to ensure that the congress instructions, its principled and exacting approach, its openness in exposing shortcomings and omissions, and the high moral and spiritual tone which it set are firmly established in every party committee and every primary party organization.

The party obkom's activity is lacking in dynamism, scope, and efficiency. The oblast's party committees have failed to draw the appropriate lessons from the fact that the development of the economy and the social sphere had slowed down in recent years, and they have not managed to establish the root causes of the phenomena of stagnation. The existing powerful production, scientific, and cadre potential is used inefficiently and the working people's initiative is not being adequately developed.

The work of party, soviet, and economic organs, public organizations, and labor collectives is not geared sufficiently to identifying and bringing into play reserves for labor productivity growth and improved output quality or to stepping up the economy drive. In implementing these tasks, the party obkom has confined itself to timid half-measures. Only 38 percent of the available capital investments are being channeled into the reconstruction and retooling of production. [paragraph continues]

The development of a number of chemical and petroleum industry machine-building and chemical, petrochemical, and food industry enterprises is proceeding according to blueprints based on obsolete equipment and technology. The transfer of the machine-building sectors to two- and three-shift working is proceeding extremely slowly.

The obkom has been unable to create a united front of all sectors in the struggle for acceleration. At many enterprises, the situation in state and planning discipline has not improved. Certain cities, rayons, sectors, and enterprises are confidently advancing, while others are marking time or even slipping back. In the first 10 months of the first year of the 12th 5-Year Plan the Komi-Permyatskiy Okrug and 11 cities and rayons failed to fulfill the plan for industrial output sales. More than 40 percent of the enterprises operating under the new management conditions failed to meet their delivery targets, and one in five failed to meet the targets for labor productivity growth. Many collectives make poor use of the CPSU Central Committee June (1986) Plenum appeal to develop the working people's initiative and activeness.

Work in the agroindustrial complex sectors is of a low standard. In agriculture the way the introduction of intensive techniques is organized is unsatisfactory, questions of enhancing soil fertility and livestock productivity and developing feed production are being neglected, and one-third of farms are operating at a loss. Resolute measures to reduce state subsidies for meat and milk and to improve food supplies to the population on the basis of the exploitation of existing potential have not been adopted. There are big delays in the creation of the material base for storing potatoes, fruit, and vegetables.

The party obkom and the oblispolkom have a poor record in solving social questions. The development of the social sphere is deplorably inadequate and is lagging behind the development of the production sphere. Targets for the construction of housing, schools, children's preschool establishments, hospitals, and polyclinics have not been met. Funds allocated for these purposes have not been assimilated. Many clubs, cultural centers, and libraries are in a poor state of repair.

The CPSU Central Committee takes the view that the serious shortcomings in the development of the economy and the social sphere are above all a consequence of the absence of any substantial changes in the work style of the obkom and its bureau, marked by obsolete methods and approaches. Their work is still not oriented enough toward people and live issues. The old habit of side-stepping problems and being content with mediocre results makes itself felt.

Compliance with the demand put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress and the Central Committee April (1985) and June (1986) Plenums to enhance the practicality and efficiency of cadres is frequently supplanted by declarations and appeals. The tendency to hold too many meetings and conferences persists. Effective monitoring of the implementation of party decisions and internal resolutions is lacking. Little attention is being paid to the strengthening of party discipline and the development and strengthening of intraparty democracy. The role of party committee plenums and party conferences is underrated. During preparations for these events the views of rank-and-file communists, workers, and specialists are not sufficiently taken into account. Restricted numbers of people are allowed to take part in discussion in accordance with a list of names drawn up in advance, and criticism is usually aimed downward from above.

All this is lowering the standards of the work of party committees as organs of political leadership. [paragraph continues]

The Komi-Permyatskiy Okruzhkom, the Berezniki, Solikamsk, Kizel, and Chusovoy Gorkoms, and the Kochevskiy, Suksunskiy, Kosinskiy and some other Perm city raykoms have failed to show proper concern for stepping up the party's influence in key sectors of production, the service sphere, science, and culture. Party organs work mainly with leading workers and a limited aktiv and they fail to reach the grassroots components of the party, rank-and-file communists, and the nonparty masses.

Party committees are frequently supplanting soviet, trade union, and economic organs, and this has a negative effect on the development of initiative and enterprise. The oblispolkom is doing little to enhance economic efficiency or encourage the comprehensive development of the production and social infrastructure and is tolerating nonfulfillment of environmental protection measures. The process of establishing state agroindustrial committee organs is dragging on. The experience of the Berezniki titanium-magnesium combine in improving working conditions and reducing sickness rates among working people, which was approved by the CPSU Central Committee, and the experience of collectives in other parts of the country in accelerating scientific and technical progress, improving production organization, and resolving social tasks has not been widely disseminated.

Cadre questions continue to be dealt with without the necessary principle and consistency. The bias against the nomination of young, promising workers and women has not yet been overcome. Many party committees lack the skill and the patience needed to help nominated officials to master the tasks with which they have been entrusted. For this reaseon kolkhoz chairmen, sovkhoz directors, and specialists are frequently being replaced. Serious damage is caused by the fact that the selection and nomination of leading cadres are frequently decided by party committee first secretaries without businesslike collective discussion and without examining the working people's views.

The party organizations' ideological work suffers because it is divorced from life and from the tasks of restructuring and acceleration that are being tackled by the party and the people. Large numbers of scientists, specialists in agriculture, and cultural figures are uninvolved in this work. Party committees, soviet organs, and public organizations are not doing much to implement the congress instruction to focus efforts on individual work with people, and they do not take the specific characteristics of the various sections of the population sufficiently into account. Little attention is being paid to propagandizing the best traditions of the oblast's working class, enhancing the initiative of engineering and technical personnel, and educating the artistic and creative intelligentsia. There are immoral phenomena in the behavior of young people. The importance of work to promote atheism is underestimated.

The struggle against drunkenness is waged unsystematically, with a narrow scope, and without the broad participation of labor collectives. Home distilling has not decreased and drug addiction has not been eradicated. Vigorous measures have yet to be taken to step up the struggle against violations of labor discipline and law and order and to stamp out unearned income.

The press, radio, and television have still not properly joined in the process of restructuring. It is difficult to determine from the nature and content of material in the oblast newspaper ZVEZDA what questions are currently at the focus of the oblast party organization's attention. The obkom bureau has not backed up a single critical article by its press organ this year. The militancy of rayon newspapers is low.

Particular responsibility for the fact that restructuring is making no headway rests with Obkom First Secretary Comrade B.V. Konoplev, Oblispolkom Chairman Comrade V.A. Petrov, and other members of the party obkom bureau, many of whom have been in charge of key sectors of work in the oblast for many years, the resolution emphasizes. Their approach to the assessment of the situation in the oblast is uncritical, they frequently do not see their own omissions, miscalculations, and mistakes, and they try to justify the lag in many sectors by reference to all kinds of external circumstances.

The CPSU Central Committee has drawn the attention of the Perm Party Obkom Bureau to serious omissions in its work and to sluggishness and inconsistency in restructuring the activity of the oblast's party, soviet, and economic organs, primary party organizations, and labor collectives.

The CPSU obkom is instructed to make a thorough, self-critical analysis of the content and methods of its activity and the activity of the party okruzhkom, gorkoms and raykoms in the period since the CPSU Central Commitee April (1985) Plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress and to implement specific measures to eliminate the existing shortcomings; to create everywhere an atmosphere of creative, committed participation by communists and all working people in the struggle for acceleration; to conduct the restructuring more actively from above and from below; to ensure greater openness; to develop criticism and self-criticism in every way; and to strive for unity of word and action.

The resolution points out that the key task of the oblast party organization is to bring the oblast's economy in line with leading positions in terms of technical standards and efficiency without delay and to ensure fulfillment of the 5-year plan targets without fail in all indicators; to focus attention on labor productivity growth and the reinforcement of contract discipline and to ensure that all the main output with the Perm brand meets the highest Soviet and world standards; firmly and consistently to implement measures for the reconstruction, renewal, and efficient utilization of production facilities; to display maximum concern for the thrifty expenditure of all types of resources, and especially metal, fuel, and electricity; to effectively monitor the introduction of new management methods, the principles of financial autonomy, the collective contract, methods of self-finance and self-support, and state acceptance of output at industrial enterprises.

The oblast party organization is instructed to overcome the long-standing shortfall in the production of mineral fertilizers, heavy electrical equipment, consumer goods, and timber exports. With a view to overcoming the imbalance in the development of a number of sectors it must accelerate the rate of commissioning of capacities at the Perm GRES, transport facilities, and processing industry and construction base enterprises.

Measures must be adopted to increase the output of agricultural products from kolkhozes and sovkhozes, subsidiary farms belonging to the population, and enterprises with a view to substantially improving the supplies of food products to the population on the basis of the utilization of the oblast's own internal reserves, and steps must be taken to eradicate manifestations of parasitism. The oblast's industrial potential must be utilized more fully for the purposes of providing assistance to sovkhozes and kolkhozes.

The CPSU Central Committee instructs the CPSU obkom, the oblispolkom, and the economic organs to intensify the social thrust of economic development in the oblast; to ensure a more effective utilization of labor resources and take care to create in every collective the necessary preconditions for highly productive labor and good living and leisure conditions; to attend more specifically to questions of the mechanization of labor-intensive processes, especially in the construction industry, coal mining, and timber procurement and at livestock raising units; and to end the toleration of low production standards and violations of labor safety regulations.

Daily attention must be paid to questions connected with implementing the party's task of ensuring that by the year 2000 every family has a separate apartment or house; to step up attention to the provision of amenities in Perm and other cities and villages, especially in the northern zone of the oblast; and to ensure their modern and comprehensive development.

The CPSU obkom, the Komi-Permyatskiy Okruzhkom, and the CPSU gorkoms and raykoms are instructed to struggle more energetically to ensure that a responsible attitude to the fulfillment of plans and socialist pledges, a high standard of organization and discipline, intolerance of shortcomings, and comradeship and mutual assistance are established as the norm in every labor collective. They must give all-round support to creative, enterprising people who put forward valuable ideas and proposals. They must contribute more actively to the establishment of new workers dynasties, firmly establish the principle of social justice in daily life, and react more sharply to deviations from the norms of socialist communal life.

The militancy of primary party organizations must be persistently enhanced and steps taken to ensure that they make fuller use of the rights and powers invested in them by the CPSU Statutes. Specific attention must be paid to organizations which continue to work along the old lines, are infected with formalism, and instead of monitoring the activities of the administration in a principled fashion are under the thumb of lazy economic managers.

Party committees, as organs of political leadership, must always proceed on the basis of the degree to which the party's program aims and the 27th CPSU Congress decisions are being implemented and the interests and requirements of the working people are being met. They must seek to improve the forms and methods of leadership and help cadres to cast off the habit of resorting to old, ineffective methods when trying to resolve new tasks. They must enhance the role of collective organs within party organizations in the elaboration and implementation of production and social tasks. They must strive for a more specific, businesslike approach in the work of party committee bureaus, sections, and the apparatus.

Party committees must overcome the practice of supplanting soviet, trade union, and economic organs. They must seek to ensure in every possible way that the soviets make better use of the powers invested in them by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers resolution of 25 July 1986. They must encourage initiative and independence in the actions of Komsomol organizations. The main objective is to achieve a situation in which every organ and every official attends to a set task and is answerable for it.

In establishing the new style of work, greater demands must be made on party committee first secretaries, whose stance, way of life, and conduct largely determine how consistently and vigorously work is restructured. A party leader is expected to contribute to the effective organization of his close colleagues' work, to support and develop their initiative, and generally ensure that all personnel fulfill the tasks entrusted to them.

The attention of party committees is drawn to the need to seriously improve work with cadres as the key component in the implementation of restructuring. They must ensure strict observance of Leninist principles in the selection, placement, and training of cadres and the creation of a reliable reserve from which cadres can be drawn. Special attention must be paid to people entrusted with the leadership of labor collectives, and efforts must be made to ensure that labor collectives are headed by people with a modern way of thinking, people who are open to innovation. The role of primary party organizations in the implementation of cadre policy must be enhanced.

The paramount task of party cadres is to learn themselves and to teach others to work in conditions of increased democracy. Today only a party, soviet, or economic leader who approaches work from party and state positions and lives for the working people's common interests can count on success.

The oblast party committees and primary party organizations must make fuller and more effective use of ideological work to enhance the political, social, and labor activeness of people and instill in them a sense of being in charge of their country and their enterprise. They must implement specific measures to encourage communists and all the working people to study in depth the CPSU Program, the Central Committee Political Report, and other documents of the 27th CPSU Congress and CPSU Central Committee plenums. They must instill in every person a conscious attitude to his duties, a Marxist-Leninist world outlook, and intolerance of petit-bourgeois mentality, morality, and everything that is alien to our system.

The CPSU Central Committee noted the need to radically improve the practice of party leadership of the news media and to constantly rely on them in ensuring greater openness, raising and widely discussing vital problems, criticizing mistakes and shortcomings, backing everything that is new and progressive, and providing truthful and prompt information to broad public circles.

GROMYKO CHAIRS SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM SESSION

LD231438 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1410 GMT 3 Dec 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Hello, comrades. A USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session was held in the Kremlin today under the chairmanship of Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko. The question of the work of soviets of peoples' deputies in Tatar ASSR, concerned with improving the style and methods of their activities in the light of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, was examined. The question of the work of soviets of peoples' deputies in Kaluga Oblast, concerned with protecting public order and fighting violations of the law, was also examined. The decisions adopted on these matters will be published in the press.

The results of the activities of the USSR Supreme Soviet in 1986 were discussed at the session. A plan for the main measures being designated to be carried out in the highest organ of state power in the country next year was approved. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium examined some other questions of state life.

Comrades Gorbachev, Shcherbitskiy, Demichev, Yeltsin, Slyunkov, and Solovyev took part in the discussion of questions on the agenda.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CPSU CC ISSUES RESOLUTION ON FARM EFFICIENCY

PM191531 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has adopted a resolution "On Urgent Measures To Enhance Labor Productivity in Agriculture on the Basis of the Introduction of Rational Forms of Labor Organization and Financial Autonomy."

The resolution notes that the prevailing production and economic situation in the countryside and the consistent implementation of the course of the all-round intensification of crop farming and livestock raising have created favorable preconditions for a resolute switch everywhere to new methods of management and an extensive development of rural worker's production activity.

The practice of recent years shows that the best results are achieved wherever financial autonomy relations have been fully mastered at all levels of production and the collective contract and intensive techniques have been introduced. This work has become more purposeful since the CPSU Central Committee conference in Belgorod. By ensuring a high level of personal interest among machine operators, livestock breeders, and other workers in the results of their labor, financial autonomy and the collective contract method are already having a great impact on the enhancement of social production efficiency on many kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Among the various forms of application of the collective contract method, numerically relatively small, intensive labor links and teams which are allocated land, machinery, and other means of production on the basis of long-term contracts appear to do best. The family contract is becoming more and more popular in all parts of the country.

However, the introduction of financial autonomy and the collective contract is still beset by much formalism and irresponsibility. On many farms this work is implemented without the proper training of cadres and without detailed elaboration of contract commitments. Supplies of resources to contract collectives are frequently not guaranteed and the economic incentives to promote thrift are poor. A serious omission is also the failure to bring the structure of production management at farm level in line with the demands of the new financial autonomy relations. The bookkeeping and economic services of kolkhozes and sovkhozes are not coordinated and sector specialists are not being involved enough in economic work.

In the work with contract links, teams, and livestock units administration by injunction is frequently applied, democratic principles of management are violated, and the role and rights of labor collectives are encroached upon.

The CPSU Central Committee instructs the union republic communist party central committees, party kraykoms, obkoms, and raykoms, the USSR Gosagroprom [State Agroindustrial Committee], union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, and rayispolkoms, and farm managers radically to improve organizational and political work to ensure the extensive introduction of financial autonomy, the collective contract, and intensive techniques in all components of agricultural production, regarding this matter as obligatory and essential for all the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

It is proposed to critically review the state of affairs in mastering the economic methods of management in every collective and to define specific measures to introduce financial autonomy and the collective contract in all the main production subdivisions, having created the necessary objective preconditions for this. The start-to-finish contract, the family contract, and other progressive forms of labor organization and stimulation are to be developed in every way. Special attention is drawn to the impermissiblility of adopting a formalistic approach and working along sterotyped lines and in fits and starts in this important matter. It is necessary to consistently seek to expand the economic independence of labor collectives and to enhance their role in and responsibility for the fulfillment of contract commitments. The pay of all farm personnel including managers and specialists must be made dependant on the end results of their work.

The CPSU Central Committee regards the speediest possible mastering of the economic methods of management by all agroindustrial production components as a task of paramount importance. It is necessary everywhere to make use of the winter period to ensure the mass training of all cadres in economic practices, efficient production organization, and progressive techniques in an effort to make sure that every worker knows his job perfectly and is able to ensure high-quality and highly productive work at his workplace. Differentiated training should be provided for different jobs and special skills and carried out directly on farms, in teams, and at livestock units where this work is organized in exemplary fashion and high results have been obtained. The role of scientific institutions, VUZ's, and base enterprises in this matter must be enhanced. Job certification specifying the appropriate qualifications must be carried out in all production and management components and this matter must be regarded as obligatory.

The USSR Gosagroprom is instructed, without delay and taking account of the achievements of science and accumulated experience, to elaborate training programs which meet the demands of the economic management mechanism and all-round production intensification. A task of paramount importance is to enhance the standard of substantiation of the normatives governing the activity of financially autonomous subdivisions on the basis of the latest scientific developments and the experience of the country's foremost kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences is instructed to intensify scientific research in the sphere of management, labor organization, and production intensification and to grear its activity more closely to the provision of practical assistance to kolkhozes and sovkhozes in their efforts to master progressive techniques and introduce financial autonomy and the contract method.

Editorial offices of central and local newspapers, the Agroprom publishing house, the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, the USSR State Committee for Cinematography, and the All-Union Znaniye Society are instructed to ensure the systematic dissemination of progressive experience in the application of financial autonomy, progressive forms of labor organization and payment, and intensive techniques and to reveal in detail their key importance for the implementation of the Food Program and the fulfillment of the 12th 5-Year Plan targets.

REPORTAGE ON VETERANS CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW

CPSU CC Greetings

PM231540 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 86 Second Edition p 1

[Message from the CPSU Central Committee to the participants in the constituent conference of the All-Union Organization of War and Labor Veterans]

[Text] To the participants in the constituent conference of the All-Union Organization of War and Labor Veterans:

Dear Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee warmly and cordially greets you, the participants in the constituent conference of the All-Union Organization of War and Labor Veterans.

Your conference is taking place on the threshold of a great event — the 70th anniversary of Great October. The Soviet people have great gratitude toward their veterans. The veterans of the revolution and of the Civil and Patriotic Wars are rightly their pride and glory. They marched on autocracy, struggled for the power of the soviets, and in fierce fighting with the enemies they upheld the honor, freedom, and independence of the motherland. The feat of the workers of the rear and of the first and postwar 5-year plans is unforgettable — they raised the country from the ruins and strengthened its might by their selfless labor. Major successes in the economy, the social and political spheres, science, and culture are associated with the deeds of the older generations. The veterans' combat feats and labor achievements are for Soviet people an inexhaustible source of unbounded loyalty to communist ideals, an example of courage, industriousness, discipline, and will for victory.

In our day, when the process of profound restructuring of all aspects of Soviet society's life is under way, the veterans are still in service, wherever they may be: in the production collectives, the Armed Forces, institutions or educational establishments, in well earned retirement, in the family — everywhere they devote their strength, knowledge, and very rich experience to the fatherland's further prosperity. The party values highly the veterans' unanimous support for its innovative course and their committed participation in the struggle of the whole people to implement the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

Veterans enjoy nationwide attention in our country. Concern for the older generation is the high moral duty of Soviet society and the obligation of every labor collective and of state and public organizations.

The All-Union Organization of War and Labor Veterans has a noble task — to promote still more active participation by the veterans in the country's economic and sociopolitical life and in the moral, labor, and military-patriotic education of young people. The veterans association could also do much to improve consumer and medical services for the veterans and to organize their leisure and contacts. There is no doubt that the veterans' organization will make a worthy contribution to strengthening peace and to the cause of preventing nuclear catastrophe. Its creation is further vivid confirmation of the development of socialist democracy.

The CPSU Central Committee wishes the conference participants fruitful work and expresses confidence that the veterans, continuing the glorious traditions, will continue to be reliable helpers for the party in communist building.

We wish you, dear comrades, good health and prosperity, vigor, and great successes in your activity for the sake of the socialist motherland.

The CPSU Central Committee

Lizichev Addresses Meeting

PM221031 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Dec 86 Second Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent Colonel A. Pimenov on 17 December Moscow founding conference of the All-Union War and Labor Veterans Organization: "Educating Patriots"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Veterans and young people... It is the moral and civic duty of the older generation to pass on like a spiritual baton to the rising generation devotion to Great October's ideas, love of the motherland, and readiness to defend it selflessly. Many participants in the conference talked about this from the platform. Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, devoted his speech to this topic.

You know well the international situation today and its acuteness, he said. And this is why the major tasks advanced by the 27th party congress include the task of comprehensively improving the Soviet state's defense capability and building up our Armed Forces' combat potential in every possible way. In our view a most important sphere, in which we have very great need of veterans' experience and knowledge, is the further strengthening of the personnel's spiritual strength and the mobilization of the human factor in the interests of the motherland's defense. In point of fact, you are all involved in this. The future soldier is influenced by schoolteachers and masters of vocational training, workers in labor collectives, reserves or retired officers and generals... And it has to be said that we all sense very fully the result and effectiveness of that influence in Army and Navy collectives. All this is expressed, indeed focused, in the degree of responsibility and discipline and in the diligence of soldiers and sailors.

Emissaries from many republics, Moscow and Leningrad, and Brest, Bryansk, Voronezh, Kaluga, Kuybyshev, Minsk, and other oblasts are serving well in the Army and Navy. Many of them recall with gratitude their first mentors -- the military leaders in general educational and vocational and technical schools -- almost half of whom are veterans of the war and the Armed Forces. They essentially lay the first "little brick" in the training of the new generation of army ranks. And it is mostly a reliable and worthy generation. However, what used to suit us in military-patriotic education yesterday can no longer satisfy us today, Army General A.D. Lizichev went on to say. You know better than anyone the strides that military matters are making. The time allocated to mastering combat specialties has been reduced to a bare minimum. Soldiers' and sailors' work demands the greatest composure of men in whom knowledge, reason, will, nerve, and physical strength are bound together like a tightly coiled spring. So we in the Army and Navy expect to receive young men who are ideologically and morally self-confident and spiritually and physically strong -- real patriots and internationalists.

So it is a question of more effectively molding in young people views that form part of a world outlook, a profound understanding of the military and political situation that has take shape in the world today, and the ability to evaluate current events from class positions. The fostering in young people of a class hatred of imperialism, the greatest vigilence, and what I would call a militant alertness is now assuming tremendous significance, as never before. Without such preparation of a conscript's consciousness it is hard to count on his adapting swiftly in a military environment or becoming quickly aware of his new role.

Who, if not war and labor veterans with their experience, knowledge, and sincere closeness and sensitivity to people, is to exert an active influence on this process?

We believe that an aspect of education such as fostering love of military service in young people of draft age also demands considerably greater attention. This is no speculative conclusion. We sometimes encounter instances of certain conscripts' not considering it obligatory to prepare themselves for service. Purposeful individual educational work by veterans with juveniles, particularly those with educational difficulties, would be a great help here.

We also allocate to your organization a more active role in the heroic-patriotic education of the Army itself and its personnel. We await you in the units and on the ships. Because you are the living bearers of heroic revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions, and these must be passed on like a baton to today's defenders of the motherland.

The Ministry of Defense, the Main Political Directorate, and military organs locally will cooperate closely with veterans organizations in resolving the current tasks.

In conclusion, Army General A.D. Lizichev wished the veterans success in their noble and important work. [passage omitted]

MOSCOW MEETING COMMEMORATES MARSHAL ROKOSSOVSKIY

PM231331 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Dec 86 Second Edition p 5

[Major B. Khudoleyev report: "In K.K. Rokossovskiy's Memory"]

[Text] A soiree devoted to the 90th anniversary of the birth of Marshal of the Soviet Union Konstantin Konstantinovich Rokossovskiy was held at the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army 19 December.

The presidium consisted of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, USSR first deputy defense minister and chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; A.N. Aksenov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and chairman of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society Board; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister; Colonel General V.S. Nechayev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and generals, admirals, officers, war veterans, and representatives of public organizations and of the Polish Embassy in the USSR.

The soiree was opened by Army General I.N. Shkadov. Chief Marshal of Artillery V.F. Tolubko read a report on the life and career of Konstantin Konstantinovich Rokossovskiy -- celebrated Soviet military commander, ardent patriot and internationalist, marshal of the Soviet Union and marshal of Poland, and twice Hero of the Soviet Union.

Division General (V. Shklyarskiy), deputy chief of staff of the Warsaw Pact states' Joint Armed Forces; Army Generals I.I. Gusakovskiy and D.D. Lelyushenko; and poet and frontline fighter Ye.A. Dolmatovskiy narrated their reminiscences of K.K. Rokossovskiy, legendary military commander and communist-serviceman.